

**KOPTICA.**  
**OFFICIAL** IS A SPECIFIC FOR RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, LUMBAGO, MIGRAINE, SCIATICA, and Kindred Complaints.  
**OFFICIAL** These are the sorts of letters we are receiving daily:—  
**OFFICIAL** Rev. Dr. G. Davis writes:—  
**OFFICIAL** "Shipboard Rectory, Cheltenham, Nov. 23rd, 1890."  
**OFFICIAL** "Will you kindly send me three bottles of your Koptica?"  
**OFFICIAL** One small bottle is completely cured a labouring man who was suffering from sciatica, lumbago, and headache and face.—Yours truly,  
**OFFICIAL** D. G. Davis (rector).  
**OFFICIAL** The prices are 1s. 3d., 3s. 6d., and 4s. 6d., and the bottles contain respectively 12, 36, and 60 doses.  
**OFFICIAL** And, as the Koptica is so effective, and, if he has not got it in stock, he will get it for you; if not, send the money, and get one for postage, to the Sole Proprietors,  
**OFFICIAL**

[illegible]

**THIRD EDITION.**  
"THE PEOPLE" OFFICE,  
Saturday Evening.  
**LATEST TELEGRAMS.**

**Scene in the Belgian Chamber.**  
 Brussels, December 5.—In to-day's sitting of the Chamber of Representatives, M. Lejeune, Minister of Justice, continued his speech in refutation of the charges brought against M. de Raemaekere by M. Bara in connection with the late Pourbaix trial. The Minister sought to prove that it was the Administration of Public Safety which maintained Pourbaix in his post. Several members of the Chamber, however, interrupted him by shouting "No," and heated altercations ensued. M. Bara said that the Minister had lied, which expression was followed by violent uproar. The President inflicted upon M. Bara a formal call to order, but withdrew it upon the latter apologising for the offensive exclamation which he had allowed to escape him.—The Lejeune, resuming his speech, said that the Cabinet was in possession of all the documents proving the innocence of the Administration of Public Safety and that Pourbaix was, and what risk they ran in employing him.

**LESSON.** December 7, 10.15 a.m.—The steamer *Alagoas*, flying the old Brazilian flag, has just arrived here with the ex-Emperor of Brazil, the Empress, the Count and Countess of D'Eu, and Prince Pedro de Saxe-Coburg, the members of the suite, and Count Motta Maia, the emperor's physician, who, since Dom Pedro's late serious illness, has constantly superintended the therapeutic treatment to which his master has been subjected. The *Alagoas* is at this morning's hour, the only steamer in the harbor. The Imperial party being immediately permitted to land with out undergoing quarantine.

COURTALLAM, December 6. — Prince Albert Victor yesterday went out shooting in the neighbourhood of Kolaturpolay, and succeeded in bringing down a fine bison. To-day the royal party started on another expedition, and elephants abound between this place and Madatharay there is every prospect of good sport.

NEW ORLEANS, December 8.—Mr. Jefferson Davis, who was President of the Southern States Confederacy during the war of rebellion, died here at quarter to one o'clock this morning at the residence of his friend, Col. Wm. Payne. He had been ill for long time past, and from the commencement had insisted that his case was quite or nearly hopeless, although he never betrayed any dread of pain or fear of death, and never appeared as buoyant as during the closing days of his fatal illness. The doctors strove to persuade him that his health was improving, but Mr. Davis steadily insisted that no amelioration had taken place. Yesterday morning, however, he felt so much better that he humorously remarked that he was afraid he would be compelled to agree with the doctors, and to admit that he was really improving. The favourable symptoms continued until six o'clock yesterday evening, when, without assignable cause, a congestive chill supervened, which seemed to crush vitality out of the enfeebled body, and from that time until the end the patient gradually sank.

At seven o'clock yesterday evening, when Mr. Jefferson Davis was administering the usual medicine to his husband, he declined to receive the dose alone. She said, "I cannot do this," and he gently whispered: "Pray excuse me," and then, with his last words.

the late Mr. Jefferson Davis were conveyed eleven o'clock last night to the City Hall, where they will lie in state until Wednesday next. The personal friends of the deceased acted as pallbearers. There was no official ceremony, but numbers of the citizens crowded the corridors and the hall itself, which was draped in black and richly decorated with wreaths and other floral emblems. The body of the ex-President was clad in the old Confederate grey uniform.

**VIENNA** December 7.—The *Presse* this morning states that the negotiations between Baron Hirs and the Austrian State Railway Company for the acquisition by the latter of the Eastern Railways have been finally broken off as no agreement could be arrived at regarding the share in the profits and the right of voting to be accorded to the foreign shares.

NEW YORK, December 7.—At Milville, in New Jersey, yesterday, a coloured woman was found murdered and mutilated, her injuries being almost identical with those of the Whitechapel victims. A glassblower named Knox has been arrested on suspicion of being the perpetrator, but he strenuously denies the charge. The chief point against him is a bloodstain upon him.

### SNOWSTORM IN LONDON.

A heavy fall of snow took place in the metropolis on Saturday morning, and the streets were now in a miserable condition. The fall of snow was pretty general all over the country.

### THE LATE INSPECTOR MARTIN Disgraceful Scenes.

murdered at Gwezdore, has excited some sectarian animosity on account of the fact that a cross was displayed upon it. A Mr. Lipsett, an abstract memorial from the church early on Friday morning, was recovered and taken back. Lipsett, of his party then closed the church gates, and in subsequent altercation the vicar was assaulted. Lipsett. The police then forced their way into the churchyard and made some arrests. But he did not stop there. He then went to the vicarage and further some of his actions were enacted within the vicarage. Again the police had to interfere, at times with more success, and the memorial was eventually erected.

living at Abbey-terrace. Paisley, died on Friday, Paisley through having drunk a quantity of vitriol. The mother of the child had been using the liquor to allay the toothache, and the child drank a spoonful.

inquiries by a correspondent show that undoubtedly the breach is widening between the South Metropolitan Gas Company and their workmen. Both sides are busy preparing for the struggle, which now appears inevitable, the men fighting in anything but a conciliatory mood, and the company considering themselves bound by the terms of the old agreement. At present there are not many outward signs of the coming strike, as the majority of the men are still at work, and the production of gas is not much on much the same as usual. Some men have, however, already been detached from picketing duty, to prevent, if possible, their hands being taken on, and these men are stationed at the entrance to the gas works, to prevent the entrance of strikers at the establishments. At present, however, there has been nothing in the nature of a collision. On their side the company are completing their arrangements for housing and feeding the men who remain in with the work. A large building, substantially built, has been especially erected in the yard at the Old Kent road, where the requisite sleeping accommodation will be provided. At each of the branches suitably placed, ready-made, new benches are continually being unrolled and upwards of a thousand men have already signed agreements to work in the place of the strikers, and there is every prospect that when the strike does come in a week's time it will find every

They will be able to prevent the works being carried on, and so plunge South London in darkness. As to how long the strike may possibly last, it is said that the union has no definite plan.

At present the union funds do not amount to more than £2,000—a sum that would not long support 22,000 families. The, however, rely on the sympathies of the public, and have decided to adopt much the same means to that which was adopted by the strikers in 1892, and by saying uprisings from other trades and industries throughout the country. Already they have opened up headquarters close to the entrances of the various works, and a mass meeting

negotiations. It is also a significant fact that the proposals are altogether broken off, no new proposals having emanated from either side. The Press Association learns that the coal porters who are coming out on strike in support of the South London gas workers, will not be confined to those employed by the South Metropolitan Gas Company, but that the Coal Porters' Union will attempt to prevent any coal from entering the port of London, either by rail or sea, until the dispute between the gas company and their men is settled.

**Darkness.** The chairman of the South Metropolitan Gas company sends to the press a letter showing that the men in their employ who are connected with the Gas Workers' Union are threatening to strike as a consequence of work being given to others from the union regard as blacklegs. The letter sets forth advantages which the company have lately conceded to the men. It concludes with

use all the means in their power to inhibit the inconvenience of a strike to the public, and at the same time "to deliver themselves, their officers, and their loyal men from the tyranny of the Gas Workers' Union." The respondent states that in accordance with the resolution they have just adopted all the gas workers are sending in their seven days' notice to the whole of the South Metropolitan Company's stations. In accordance with a decision arrived at by the executive of the coal porters, the whole of the latter employed in the Gas works are also sending in their notice. They demand that the companies pay 7s. 6d. per ton for barge labour, which should be 4d. per ton, and also that they be not put to work with non-union men. Should these terms not be conceded within seven days the coaling and lighting of South London will be

At the Clerwell Police Court, James Payne, 24, King-street, Lambeth; George Souter, of 4, Blenheim-road, Hornsey; Joseph Gruunweber, of Chatham Avenue, Mile End; and Henry Brown, of Thorpale-road, Hornsey, joined by the bakers, were summoned for conspiring to defraud the proprietors of a shop of George Henrichsen, a baker, at 102, Upper-street, on the 16th November, contrary to the 7th section of the Conspiracy Act, 1875.—Mr. Eicketts, solicitor, stated that the defendants distributed printed bills which requested the public to buy bread from the shop until the ten hours' day was introduced to the men there. The count

men more than ten hours, but the law was intended to be dictated to by the union. Mr. Richardson, for the defence, contended that the Act under which his clients were summoned only applied to disputes between masters and men, and that intimidation was used. The distribution of the bills to the public was not an offence against the Act.—Mr. Horace thought that although the prevention of intimidation of workmen by their fellows was the main aim of the Act, it was not the sole object of it. The statute was distinctly applied to the watching and bettering of houses and shops for the purpose of preventing persons going into the streets and bettering the houses of the defenceless. He clearly was guilty. He would let them each to pay a fine of 40s., or he would let them be imprisoned for fourteen days.—Mr. Richardson observed that the fines would be paid by the union, and gave notice of appeal against the decision.

Manchester had a most unenviable experience on Saturday, in consequence of the strike of gas workers. The new hands taking the place of the old ones were not so well lodged and fed at the works, but the supply of gas provided was a scarcely more than enough to make darkness visible. On Friday night there was a general resort to lamps and candles, and many shops presented the curious spectacle of being lighted with numerous candlestick in bottles. In some districts two candles were used at all. On Saturday morning, the darkness was made worse, there was an exceedingly dense fog over the city. Some of the largest houses had to stop, even those supplied with electric lighting apparatus finding that their gas engines were not capable of supplying the power required for the use of the apparatus. Several thousands of mill hands are out of play. The same state of things prevails in Scotland, and it need hardly be said that the traction

### Threatened Strike of Railway Servants.

A Newcastle-on-Tyne telegram states that the demands of the workmen employed in the goods departments of the North-Eastern Railway at Newcastle for shorter hours and higher wages not having been conceded they on Friday decided to give notice to terminate their engagements on the 13th inst.—A telegram from Leeds states that a movement is on foot amongst the lower grades of railway servants with the object of securing increased remuneration. These men earn an average of 18s. to 18s. weekly, but the majority of them are not entitled to a bonus which does not exceed 15s. There is to be a labour parade and demonstration on Sunday in Vicars Croft, at which delegates from the London Labour Union are to spe. K.

**THE BURNAND LIBEL.**  
**Damages.**  
Mr. Burnand, the editor of *Punch*, on Saturday obtained from the *Society Herald* £150 damages, in addition to £10 paid into court, and £50 from the National Press Agency, for a libel published by them respectively.

Mr. Schlesinger, the gentleman to whom the late Mr. Wilkie Collins by will bequeathed his copyrights, on Friday, before Mr. Justice Kay, in the Chancery Division, made application to restrain the performance of "The New Magdalen" at the Brighton Aquarium. The play is called "White" at the Brighton Aquarium. In the first case, Mr. Edwin Turner, whose company was announced to perform the piece, gave an undertaking for a week, and the case was adjourned for that time. In the second case Mr. Henry Woodhouse, who was announced to perform "The Woman in White," did not appear, and an interim injunction was granted against him.

### MUSIC OR NUISANCE?

IN an action of Hobbs and Co. v. Hamilton, in the Chancery Division on Friday, a motion was made before Mr. Justice Chitty for an injunction to restrain Mrs. Frances Rachel Hamilton from committing the nuisance of playing the violin, held by her of the plaintiffs, and from playing, or suffering to be played, on the fourth floor of Carlisle Mansions, the violin, violoncello, or other musical instruments, in such a manner as to annoy the plaintiffs and other tenants or occupiers of the mansions. It was said that the defendant's son, a young gentleman, in order to become a professional musician, practised on the violoncello from eight in the morning till ten at night, with certain intervals, when he practised on the piano, and a daughter and her governess also played on the piano.

After this was read was a nuisance.—For the defendant it was submitted that what was being done was not a nuisance.—It was arranged that the case should be set down for trial at once.

**A JUVENILE FOR THE NEW SAVOY OPERA.**  
Mr. Richard D'Oyly Carte, proprietor of the Savoy, applied at Bow-street Police Court on Friday, through a solicitor, for a license under the Act for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children to

place in certain premises licensed by the Lord Chamberlain for public entertainment, named the Savoy Theatre. The charge in question is named John Stanley, and he will be 10 years of age this third of October next.—Mr. Stanley's mother, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte's solicitor, said the boy had been engaged in the "Pinafore" company, and there was no reason to suppose his health would be impaired.—Mr. Vaughan said it would be necessary for Mr. D'Oyly Carte to sign the application, and he would then probably be able to give the license, which must be made out in a certain form. The applicant must come again in a certain time.—Mr. Stanley: The opera is to be produced on Saturday night.—Mr. Vaughan: I will give you my answer verbally, and it shall be confirmed on Monday. (To the boy's mother): Do you think it to the boy's advantage that he should be so employed.—The Mother: Oh, yes, sir.—Mr. Vaughan: Oh, very well.

**DEATH OF CAPTAIN PLUNKETT.**  
Captain Plunkett, divisional magistrate for County Cork, died at half-past one on Friday afternoon at Cork, after a painful illness. He visited Enzland recently, and after his return he was prostrated by a complication of ailments. Among other medical troubles which was over taken, almost total blindness was caused, it is supposed by tumour on the brain near the optic region. Mrs. Plunkett returned with her husband from Enzland, and was present with him when he died, as was also the Rev. Father McCarthy, of the order of Franciscans, who ministered spiritually to him. He was 51 years of age. The Hon. Thomas Oliver Westera Plunkett, son of the twelfth Baron Louth, was one of the most prominent figures in the recent history of Irish administration, in which he has distinguished himself both as a soldier and a magistrate.

**A ROMANTIC ELOPEMENT.**  
News came from Rio Grande do Sul of a romantic elopement of a young couple, both children of the same parents, became violently enamoured of each other, but the course of love did not run smoothly, their respective fathers being at daggers drawn with each other. At the age of seventeen Estephania pleaded with her stern parent that she could love no other than Rodrigo. A strict watch was kept over her movements, and, of course, she was not permitted to see Rodrigo. Her father, however, but, thanks to the service of an old maid, lettered passed secretly between the young people. One morning at daybreak a heavily laden mule, with a large pannier on each side, passed through the town gate of Santa Rita, driven by a young man. When the animal reached a church in the neighbouring village, it was brought to a halt, the panniers were opened, and from one of them stepped out Senorita Estephania, shaking the straw from her bridal veil, while out of the other sprang Don Rodrigo, who gravely presented his bride with her fan, and proceeded, without loss of time, to lead her to the altar, where the priest was in readiness to celebrate the marriage of the enterprising couple. The ceremony was witnessed by a few of the assembled villagers, who had quickly collected to see the result of this unusual case of merchandise.

the Surrey Wheelers Cycling Club, will take the chair at the annual dinner, to be held on Monday evening at the Holborn Restaurant.

Dr. Diplock held an inquiry on Friday, as the Ship Hotel, Hammersmith, into the circumstances attending the death of George Stevens, aged 41, a keeper in the employ of the Earl of Warwick. Miss Olympia Gray, who was killed by an elephant on Tuesday last.—Mrs. J. A. Bailey deposed that he was part proprietor of Barnum's Show, and that the deceased was in his employ, and had been with the company four or five years as an elephant keeper. The elephant which caused the man's death had been with them about eight years, and had never shown any viciousness or vindictiveness, and was considered a very docile animal. At the time of the accident there were a lot of workmen employed overhead, and that might have somewhat upset the elephant.—William Shaw, an elephant trainer and performer, stated that on Tuesday morning he saw all the elephants as usual, and noticed no excitement among them. The particular elephant referred to was always considered one of the quietest. The deceased had to take care of and clean out the stable of elephants and generally attend to the animals' wants. At the time he was killed he, with others, was getting ready for the opening of the show.—By the Coroner: If the elephants were frisky or vicious the men had plenty of time to wait till they settled down.—By the Jury: So far as he knew, the animal had no grudge against Stevens.—A Juror: Is the elephant trained for the public man's use? The elephant was trained to do anything.—By the Coroner: Another employee stated that he had charge of all the wild animals except the elephants. About midday on Tuesday he heard a shout of "Take him away," and looking over the partition saw that the big elephant had the little elephant against the post. He seized a broom and went to separate them, calling on the larger one by name (Mandarin), and it walked away to its stable. When the smaller animal moved he saw Stevens sitting against the wall in a crouching position with his head bent forward. He was dead. The witness did not notice any marks of injury on the outboard side coming from his hand. The body appeared to be crushed by the smaller elephant.—Medical evidence was given, and the jury, accepting the coroner's suggestion, returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased was accidentally killed by the elephant, and that ordinary precautions for safety had been taken.

**A WATCH PROTECTOR.**  
A curious case was investigated at Marlborough on Sunday. The name of Mary McHugh was charged with having gentleman's gold watch in her possession, when she was last before the court it was stated that she followed a drunken old gentleman from St. James' Restaurant, and despite his efforts to prevent her, got into a cab with him. Next day the gentleman reported the loss of his watch, and the prisoner, or inquiring for his gold watch, was taken to Marlborough, to give evidence. On Friday the Mr. old Roberts, a drysalter, staying at the Great Northern Hotel, identified his watch, but said he remembered nothing of the woman. The night he lost his watch he was locked up for being drunk. The magistrate thought it was likely that the woman intended to return the watch, as she inquired for the prosecutor on the following day, and discharged her.

Coroner Macdonald held an inquest on Thursday at Tottenham on the body of George Ernest Wheeler, aged 6 years, whose parents live at 11 North Grove, Stamford Hill.—From the evidence of the mother it appeared that a few days ago she left a lamp burning on the stairs to show a light for her husband, as she expected him home to tea. Deceased, unknown to her, took the lamp, a few hours after she was alarmed by cries of fire. She rushed upstairs and found the poor child lying in the flames. He was conveyed to the hospital, and died the next day.—The medical evidence shows that deceased was frightfully burned, and death was due to shock.—A verdict of accidental death was returned.

**THE ALLEGED FRAUD ON MESSRS. COULSON.**  
At Bow-street Police Court on Thursday, a young man named Frederick Francis Middleweek appeared to bail on the charge of attempting to obtain a cheque-book from Messrs. Coulson and Co. by means of a forged order. Mr. Mullens represented the London Bankers' Association; Mr. G. B. Norman defended. The circumstances under which an order requesting that a cheque-book should be sent to the care of the Royal Sea-bathing Infirmary, at address in Roehampton-street, Vauxhall, has been reported.—Detective-sergeants White and Nearn, of Scotland Yard, were deputed to make inquiries, and arrested the accused.—Evidence was called to show that prisoner had suffered mentally, and Mr. Bathurst Norman made an affidavit that he might be insane. The prosecution assented to the course, inquiries as to the respectability of the defendant's parents being satisfactory.—Sir James Ingham, after some consideration, said he must be satisfied that the course suggested would be carried out, and he remanded the defendant to bail.—Mr. Norman now produced a cheque-book, and said that all arrangements had been made for him to sail at once.—James Ingham accordingly allowed the accused to be discharged.

"The most disgraceful thing I ever heard of is the way in which Mr. Montagu Williams subscribed an offence which was brought to notice on Friday at Dalston. A man, William James Moses, of Mare-street, Hackney, was charged, under the Post Office Proclamation Act, with having written a word of an indecent character on the outside of an envelope. A censure order had been made against him, he wrote to the girl, putting on the outside of the envelope most disgusting expressions. The letter was stopped by the Post Office inspectors, and, on having been proved, the magistrate imposed a fine of £10 and costs in each case.

An extraordinary case of theft was brought before Mr. Partridge at Lambeth Police Court Friday. A man named Charles King was charged with stealing a ton of lead and some shop-fittings worth about £50. The prisoner and another man completely stripped an unoccupied shop in Brompton street, Lambeth, of its fittings and tore the lead off the roof of the premises adjoining houses. The prisoner stated that he was employed by the other man, who had not been arrested, but he was committed for trial.

Thursday. The plaintiff sought to recover damages for breach of contract and commission against "Samson, the Strongest Man on Earth."—Mr. White, who appeared for the defendant, said he had a preliminary objection to make. This plaint was issued on the 25th of November, and was returnable for trial on the 26th. The court ordered that it should be adjourned until the 10th of December, as the defendant was going to leave the country. That was not so. On the same day a default summons was issued, and that brought up the claim on the two plaintiffs to 453s. As they were both for the same thing the claim could not be divided, and therefore it was out of his honour's jurisdiction.—The plaintiff said the two cases were different, and that he was obliged to the registrar when the summonses were issued. He could prove that the defendant was going to leave the country.—Mr. White: He is not going away. He has another engagement for eighteen weeks.—The defendant was called, and in answer to his counsel, said: I am not going to leave the country. I have another engagement for six months and a half, eighteen weeks.—Plaintiff: Have you a contract for Berlin, which was made by me in the dressing-room.—Defendant: Yes. On the 15th February.—Plaintiff: Was it not arranged that if this engagement failed with Mr. Van Biemel, you were to go to Germany at once?—Witness: On the 15th February, 1890.—Plaintiff: Can you prove that the defendant should be in the country on the 15th of Germany?—His honour said he was not satisfied that the defendant was going abroad, and he could not now hear the case. It would be adjourned, and the defendant would have the costs of the day, whatever the result of the notice was.—Mr. White asked his honour's decision on the question of jurisdiction.—His honour said he could not give that until the other witnesses

On Friday, Mr. George White, counsel for the plaintiff in the George Sanger vs. the Royal Aquarium Company, moved in the Chancery Division, before Mr. Justice Chitty, for an injunction to restrain the defendants, the officers, contractors, servants, workmen, and agents, from continuing to advertise that the plaintiff was still performing at the Royal Aquarium. The plaintiff was, up to the 10th November last, exhibiting his feats of strength under the name of "Aqua-Force," and had been doing so for a fortnight's notice of his intention to terminate his contract with them. His complaint now was that they were still continuing to advertise him throughout London as still performing his feats of strength there. While he was performing for them they advertised him very largely by means of large placards and posters, and by smaller notices in the newspapers, and that they had not taken the trouble since his engagement terminated to withdraw them. The chairman and the secretary of the company made affidavits to the contrary, and said that they gave directions that a certain number of slips should be printed in order to be placed over the bills. Mr. Justice Chitty observed that if the defendants did not claim the right to advertise otherwise than as they had advertised him, as the thing was at an end, he could not grant an injunction; if they claimed a right to advertise him he could grant one.

**A PLAGUE OF RATS.**  
East Lothian is at present suffering from serious plague of rats. Sir David Baird, of Newbyth, has summoned a meeting to be held at Haddington, to devise measures to deal with the vermin. Rats have been killed in hundreds of thousands, but without any apparent diminution of numbers. Turnip, potato, turnip, and other crops have been damaged, and roadsides burrowed with holes.

The Attorney-general applied to the Lord Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Mathew on Friday to a day to hear a case which involved a question respect of the liability of omnibus proprietors pay the hackney carriage tax of two guineas. The question was of importance, and the tax having to be paid by January it was desirable that should be decided during the present sittings. Their lordships fixed Tuesday next for the hearing.

Mr. J. C. Grantham, in charging the jury at the Liverpool Assizes on Friday, said, "I do not feel thinking those who had the control of the houses did not put the law in force, if they did it was quite clear that some more drastic law was required which would enable them to punish those who had it in their power to withhold drink from people, but who for the purpose of ill-gotten gain went on giving drink as they could get people steady enough to give them money for it."

day, Wynne E. Baster held an inquest on Thursday night on the body of the newly-born child of Isabella Duncan, a single woman, who recently came to London from the country and took lodgings at Mile End. The child had been found floating in a box with its throat cut. The inquest was adjourned, and it was stated that Miss Duncan was ill in bed, but was practically under arrest. As soon as she can be removed she will be charged with causing the death of the child.

**At Heford Assizes** on Friday, before Mr. Justice Stephen, John Sanders, aged 33 years, was sentenced to five years' penal servitude for a burglary. — Samuel Rowe, aged 40, for a similar offence, was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude.

**ERRATUM.**—In a report of a six-round boxing contest last Saturday which appeared in our columns, we regret that it was erroneously described as taking place at the "Hop and M Exchange," instead of the "Hop and M Club."

Club, a very successful smoking concert was given on Wednesday last. There was a large attendance and a capital programme had been arranged. The duets of Messrs. Rees and Williams, and the solo of Mr. Jones, were much appreciated, as was also the solo of Mr. Jones, who was much appreciated. Mr. Arthur Callan gave "The Whaling Song" in capital style, and had to respond to an encore. Mr. Fred Rees's humour, and his genuine enthusiasm, and he was warmly applauded at the conclusion of each song. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Dobing, the giver of the concert.



OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

In one handsome volume, Mr. Rider Haggard gives his innumerable readers four stories in his best vein. Of these "Allan's Wife" is published for the first time, the other three, "Hunter Quatermain's Story," "A Tale of Three Lions," and "Long Oke," have previously appeared. As if that were not sufficiently high fare for the novel reader, eight full-page illustrations, by those clever artists, Greifenhagen and Charles Kerr, are added. The mounting is excellent in every way which may also be said of another beautiful volume of fiction, "A Race of Sixteen," by L. B. Walford, published by the same firm, Messrs. Spencer Blackett and Hallam. It, too, is illustrated by the same artists, and the publisher's guarantee that the letterpress will be found up to the mark. That is so, in truth, and as in Mr. Rider Haggard's quartette, the mark is a very high one.

An excellent reprint of Dr. Wallace's "Travels on the Amazon and Rio Negro" forms the latest instalment of the Minerva Library (Ward, Lock and Co.). It is a work that many have desired to possess, but which has hitherto been out of the reach. That obstacle now being removed, they will, no doubt, hasten to furnish their libraries with a book hardly second to Darwin's "Voyage of the Beagle" in scientific interest. Mr. Deany Ursell again makes his bow to the public with a very useful treatise on "The Investment of Trust Funds under the New Law" (Edinburgh Wilson and Co.). All trustees will find their advantage in investing a shilling in a copy; the compilation is as lucid a comprehensive and well-arranged summary of the recently promulgated provisions of the C.T.C. for not doing its duty by issuing a road book for the use of members. As there seems little chance of this requirement being supplied during the present century, cyclists had better purchase a copy of Mr. Charles Howard's "The Roads of England and Wales" (Mason and Payne), the fifth edition of which now lies before us. It is, undoubtedly, the best work of the sort obtainable, and now that the contents have been carefully revised and brought down to date, the wheeling tourist will find it a most valuable guide. For his further enlightenment, a large and accurately drawn map is appended, giving all the roads, great and little, and other features. It has the merit of being printed on a material almost unchangeable and yet very compressible. "Clash-toun Ch'rioles," by "Quip" (Digby and Longman) and "The Loveliest Woman in Town," by Campbell Rae-Brown (Dean & Co.), are for no particular reason commendable in literature or in style. But a word of praise must be given to C. Damien's "French in Three Months" (Hachette and Co.), which will be found a great help to beginners. Nor must we omit to make favourable mention of "Collins' Diaries," some samples of which have reached us. They are conveniently arranged, strongly bound, and priced at reasonable figures.

By a clerical error, we last week printed the name of a new novel as "The Fortune of the Twittentuns," whereas the correct title is "The Fortune of the Twittentuns."

### THE FATAL CAB ACCIDENT IN THE STRAND.

Mr. Troutbeck, the Westminster coroner, held an inquest on Wednesday night at Charing Cross Hospital on the body of Frank Dennis, the cabman who was killed through falling from his cab in Adam-street, Strand. Mr. Waters, solicitor, watched the coroner, and Mr. Thomas St. John, another cabman, who had been remanded to Holloway Prison on a charge of having caused the death of the deceased.—William John Hills, a letter-sorter, stated that twenty minutes past twelve on Sunday morning he was passing along the Strand, when he saw two hansom cabs turn into Adam-street. As they approached the narrowest part of the thoroughfare the driver whipped their horses, and began to race, and each man was evidently trying to reach the Adelphi end of the street first. It was owing to the pace at which they were driving that the witness watched them. As the corner of John-street the cabs came into collision and the horse driven by the deceased was thrown to the ground. The witness afterwards found Dennis lying between the animal's feet, apparently dead. The other cab continued its journey.—The medical evidence showed that death resulted from suffocation. The deceased was eating at the time, and some food got into the air passage. His skull was also extensively fractured.—Further evidence was given showing that the deceased was on good terms with the accused.—The jury, after some deliberation, returned a verdict of accidental death.

A long and interesting programme of vocal music and recitations was gone through on the occasion of Miss Annie Parker's annual benefit in the French Chamber of St. James's Hall. Among the principal items was the recital, by Mrs. Albert S. Bradshaw, of her own poem, "Idalia." The piece is full of pathetic and tragic interest, to which Mrs. Bradshaw did full justice.

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CHAPTER XIII.  
SHADOW AND LIGHT.

John Girdlestone's private residence in Ecclestone-square was a large and substantial house in a district which the wave of fashion had passed over in its westward course. It might still, however, be said to be covered by a deposit of eminent respectability. The building was stern and handsome and massive in its exterior, but the interior was luxury itself, for the old maid, in spite of his ascetic appearance, was inclined to be a sybarite at heart, and had a due appreciation of the good things of this world. Indeed, there was an oriental and almost barbarous splendour about the great rooms, where the richest of furniture was interspersed with skins from the Gaboon, hand-worked ivory from Old Calabar, and the thousand other strange valuables which were presented by his agents to the African trader. The death of his heir, Girdlestone had been a good thing for the world. He had taken Harston away from his herds at Fullerton and brought her to live with him. From the garrets of that palatial edifice to the cellars she was at liberty to roam where she would, and do what she chose. The square garden, too, with its smoke-dried trees and faded lawn, was at her disposal, in which she might walk, or work, or read. No cares or responsibilities were imposed upon her. The domestic affairs were superintended by a stern housekeeper, who bore a quainter resemblance to Girdlestone himself in petticoats and hair arranged in the style of housekeeping. The young girl had apparently only to exist and to be happy.

Yet the latter item was not so easy as it might seem. It was not a congenial atmosphere. Her whole society consisted of the stern unemotional merchant and his vulgar, occasionally brutal, son. The first whilst the memory of her father was still fresh, she felt that she was in the presence of a trifling, as they did, with her happy Fulham home. Gradually, however, as time deadened the sting she came to accommodate herself to circumstances. The two men left her very much to her own devices. Girdlestone was so engrossed in his business that he had little time to inquire into her past life, and she was so much occupied with her present life that she seldom came except at breakfast time, when she listened with awe to his sporting slang and cynical comments upon men and manners.

John Girdlestone had been by no means overjoyed upon the return of the Dimdales from Edinburgh to learn that his ward had been thrown into the company of her young cousin, and that she was to be married to him in Phillimore Gardens for some time to come. It took occasion also to speak of Tom, and to assure her that he had received very serious accounts as to his spiritual state. "He is addicted to all manner of debasing pursuits," he remarked, "and it is my particular wish that you should exert your influence to bring him to his senses." Accordingly, that romantic Dimdale, when in London, he even took the precaution of telling off a confidential footman to walk behind her on all occasions, and to act either as an escort or as a sentry.

It chanced, however, that one day, a few weeks after her return, Kate found an opportunity of seeing her brother, when he began his long and arduous despatch upon some of her duty, so she bethought herself that a book was to be bought, and some of the lace to be mached, and several other important feminine duties to be fulfilled. It happened, however, that as she walk-d sedately downwards Warwick-street, her eyes fell upon a very tall and slender young man, who, in the act of passing her, was in her direction, tapping his stick listlessly against the railings, as is the habit of idle men. A thiaa Kate forgot incontinentally all about the 'book and the lace, while the tall youth ceased to tap the railings, and came striding towards her with his springy footsteps and a smiling face.

"Why, Cousin Tom, who would have thought of meeting you here?" she exclaimed, when the first greeting had been exchanged. "It is a most surprising thing." It is possible that the incident would not have struck her as so very astonishing after all had she known that Tom had spent six hours a day for the last fortnight in blockading the entrances to Eccleston-square.

"Most remarkable!" said the young hypocrite.

"You see I haven't anything to say yet, so I was about to do nothing," said she, with a look that sent me in the direction.

"And how is the doctor?" Kate asked eagerly.

"And Mrs. Dimdale, how is she? You must give my love to them both."

"How is it that you have never been to see us?"

"Mr. Girdlestone thinks that I have been too idle lately, and that I should stay at home. I am afraid it will be some little time before I can steal away to Kensington."

Tom consigned her guardian under his breath to a region warmer even than the scene of that gentleman's former speculations. "Which way are you going?" he asked.

"I was going to Victoria-street to change my book, and then to Ford-street."

"What a strange thing!" the young man exclaimed, "I was going in that direction too." It seemed the more strange as he was walking in the opposite direction. He did not, however, think it worth his while to say so, but he did not seem inclined to make any comment upon the fact, so they walked on together.

"And you have not forgotten the days in Edinburgh yet?" Tom asked after a long pause.

"No, indeed," his companion answered with enthusiasm. "I shall never forget them as long as I live."

"Nor I," said Tom, earnestly. "You remember the day we sat at the Pentlands?"

"And the drive round Arthur's Seat."

"And the time that we all went to Roslin and saw the chapel."

"And the day at Edinburgh Castle when we saw the jewels and the armoury; and you must have seen all these things many times before? You could not have enjoyed it as much as we did for the first time."

"Oh, yes I did," Tom said stoutly, wondering

to himself how it was that the easy grace with which he could turn compliments to maidens for whom he had no feeling, and so entirely deserted him. You see, Kate well—you were not there when I saw them before."

"Ah," said Kate demurely, "what a beautiful day it is. I fancied in the morning that it was going to rain."

Tom was not to be diverted from his subject by accidental diversions. "Perhaps some time your grandfather will allow the dad to take you on another little h-liday," he said hopefully.

"I'm afraid he won't," answered Kate.

"Why not?"

"Because he seemed so cross when I came back this last time."

"What he means?" asked Tom.

"Because——" She was about to say that it was because she had been brought in contact with him, but she recollected herself in time.

"Because what?"

"Because he happened to be in a bad temper," she answered.

"It is too bad that you should have to submit to any one's whims and tempers," the young man said, switching his stick angrily backwards and forwards.

"Why not?" she asked, laughing. "Every body has some one or other. If you hadn't, you would never know right from wrong."

"But he is unkind to you."

"No, indeed," said Kate, with decision. "He is really very kind to me. He may appear a little



at times, but I know that he means it for my own good, and I should be a very foolish girl if I resented it. Besides, he is so pious and good that what may seem a little fault to us would appear a great thing in his eyes."

"Oh, he is very pious and good then," Tom remarked in a doubtful voice. His shrewd old father had formed his own views as to John Girdlestone's character, and his son had in due course imbibed them from him.

"Yes, of course he is," answered Kate, looking up with great wondering eyes. "Don't you know that he is the chief supporter of the Purbeck-street Branch of the Primitive 'Trinitarians,' and sits in the front pew three times every Sunday?"

"Ah!" said Tom. "Yes, and subscribes to all the charitable funds, and is a friend of Mr. Jefferson Edwards, the great philanthropist. Besides, look how good he has been to me. He has taken the place of my father."

"Hum!" Tom said dubiously; and then, with a little pang at his heart, "Do you like Ezra Girdlestone?"

"No, indeed," cried his companion with energy. "I don't like him in the least. He is a cruel, bad-hearted man."

"Cruel! You don't mean cruel to you, of course."

"No, not to me. I avoid him as much as I can, and sometimes for weeks we hardly exchange a word. Do you know what he did the other day? It makes me shudder even to think of it. I heard him crying pitifully in the garden. I went out to see what was the matter. When I got outside I saw Ezra Girdlestone leaning out of a window with a gun in his hands, one of those air-guns which don't make any noise when they go off. And there, in the middle of the garden, was a poor cat that he had tied to a bush, and he had been practising at it for ever so long. The poor creature was still alive, but oh so dreadfully injured."

"The brute! What did you do?"

"I untied it, and brought it inside, but it died during the night."

"And what did he say?"

"He put up his gun while I was untangling it, as if he had half a mind to take a shot at me. When I met him afterwards he said that he would teach me to mind my own business. I didn't mind what he said though, as long as he had the cat."

"Spoke like that, did he?" said Tom savagely, flushing up to his eyes. "I wish I saw him now. I'd teach him manners, or—"

"You'll certainly get run over if you go on like that," interrupted Kate. "Indeed, the young man in his indignation was striding over a crosswalk without the slightest heed of the imminent danger which he ran from the stream of traffic."

"Don't be so excitable, Cousin Tom," she said, laying her gloved hand upon his arm; "there is nothing to be cross about."

"Isn't there?" he answered furiously. "It's a pretty state of things that you should have to submit to insults from a brutal puppy like that fellow, Ezra Girdlestone."

The pair had managed by this time to get half way across the road, and were halting upon the little island of safety formed by the great stream of 'buses, yellow, purple, and brown, with vans, hansoms, and growlers, blocked the way in front of them. A single policeman, with his back turned to them, and his two arms going like an animated semaphore, was the only human being in their immediate vicinity. And all the roar and rattle of the huge city traffic, as though they were in the centre of Salisbury Plain.

"You must have a protector," Tom said with decision.

"Oh, Cousin Tom, don't be foolish; I can protect myself very well."

"You must have someone who has a right to look after you." The young man's voice was husky, for the back part of his throat had become unaccountably dry of a sudden.

"You can pass now, sir," roared the constable, for there was a momentary break in the traffic.

"Don't go for a moment's companion by the sleeve of her jacket. We are alone here, and can talk. Don't you think—don't you think you could like me a little bit if you were to try. I love you so, Kate, that I cannot help hoping that my love is not all lost."

"All clear now, sir," shouted the constable once more.

"Don't mind him," said Tom, still detaining her on the little island. "Since I met you in Edinburgh, Kate, I have seemed to be walking in a dream. Do what will, go where I will, I still have you before my eyes and hear your sweet voice in my ears. I don't believe any girl was ever loved more dearly than I love you, but I find it so hard to put into words the thoughts that I have in my mind. For heaven's sake, give me some little gleam of hope to carry away with me. You don't dislike me, Kate, do you?"

"You know that I don't, Cousin Tom," said the young lady, with downcast eyes. He had cornered her so skilfully against the great lamp that she could move neither to the right nor to the left.

"Do you like me then, Kate?" he asked eagerly, with a loving light in his earnest grey eyes.

"Of course I do."

"Do you think you could love me?" continued this persistent young man. "I don't mean all at once, and in a moment, because I know very well that I am not worthy of it. But in time don't you think you could come to love me?"

"Perhaps," murmured Kate, with averted face. It was such a very little murmur at all; yet it pealed in the young man's ears above the rattle and the clatter of the busy street. His head was very near to hers at this time.

"Now's your time, sir," roared the semaphoric policeman.

Had Tom been in a less exposed position it is possible that he might have acted upon that well-timed remark from the cunning constable. The centre of a London crossing is not, however, a very advantageous spot for the performance of love passages. As they walked on, threatening clouds among the vehicles, Tom took his companion's hand in his, and they exchanged one firm grip, which each felt to be the nature of a pledge.

How sunny and bright the dull brick-lined streets seemed to these two young people that afternoon. They were both looking into a future which seemed to be one long vista of happiness and love. Of all the gifts of Providence, surely our power of knowledge of the things which are to come upon us is the most merciful, and the one we could least dispense with.

So happy and so light-hearted were these two lovers that it was not until they found themselves in Warwick-street once more that they came down from the clouds, and realised that there were some commonplace details which must be dealt with in one way or another.

"Of course, I may tell my own people, dearest, about our engagement?" Tom said.

now, so in a little more than a year I shall be entirely free. That is not very long."

"I don't know about that," Tom said, doubtfully. "However, if you will be more comfortable, of course, that settles the question. It seems rather hard, though, that we should have to conceal it, simply in order to pacify this old bear."

"It's only for a time, Tom; and you may tell them at home by all means. Now, good-bye, dear, they will see you from the windows if you come near."

"Good-bye, my darling." They shook hands and parted, he hurrying away with the glad tidings to Phillimore Gardens, she tripping back to her captivity with the lightest heart that she had felt for three weary years. Passers-by glanced back at the bright little face under the bright little bonnet, and Ezra Girdlestone, looking down at her from the drawing-room window, bethought him that if the diamond speculation should fail it would be no hardship to turn to his father's ward.

CHAPTER XIV.

A SLIGHT MISUNDERSTANDING.

The revelation of the real state of the firm's finances was a terrible blow to Ezra Girdlestone. To a man of his overbearing, tempestuous disposition, failure and poverty were things which he had been wont to tread down before him all such little difficulties and obstacles as came across him in his former life. Now he encountered a great barrier which could not be passed so easily, and he raged and chafed before it. It made him still more wroth to think that the fault was none of his. All his life he had reckoned, as a matter of course, that when his father passed away he would be left alone a millionaire. A single half-hour's conversation had shattered this delusion and left him face to face with ruin. He lost his sleep and became restless and hollow-eyed. Once or twice he was seen the worse for drink in the daytime.

He was a man of strong character, however, and though somewhat demoralised by the sudden shock, he threw away no point in the game which he and his father were playing. He saw clearly that only a bold stroke could save them. He therefore threw himself heart and soul into the diamond scheme, and worked out the details in a masterly manner. The more he looked into it the more convinced he became, not only of its feasibility, but of its absolute safety. It seemed as though it were hardly possible that it should fail.

Among other things he proceeded to qualify himself as a dealer in diamonds. It happened that he was acquainted with one of the partners of the firm of Fungus and Stoltz, who did the largest import trade in precious stones. Through his kindness he received instructions in the various and value of diamonds, and learned to detect all those little flaws and peculiarities which are only visible to the eye of an expert, and yet are of the highest importance in determining the price of a stone. With such opportunities Ezra made rapid progress, and within a few weeks there were few dealers in the trade who had a better grasp of the subject.

Both the Girdlestones recognised that the success of their plan depended largely upon the choice of an agent, and both were of the opinion that in Major Tobias Clutterbuck they had just the man that they were in want of. The younger merchant had long felt vaguely that the major's social position, combined with his impecuniosity and the looseness of his morality, as inferred from his mode of life, might some day make him a valuable agent under delicate circumstances. As to the old soldier's own inclinations, Ezra flattered himself that he knew the man's nature to a nicety. It was simply a question of the price to be paid. No doubt the figure would be substantial, but he recognised with a trader's instinct that the article was a superior one, and he was content to allow for the quality in estimating the value.

Early one April afternoon the major was strutting down St. James's-street, frock-coated and kid-gloved, with protuberant chest and glittering shoes which peeped out from beneath the daintiest of gaiters. Young Girdlestone, who had been the look out from a club window, ran across and intercepted him.

"How are you, my dear major?" he cried, advancing upon him with outstretched hand and as much show of geniality as his nature permitted.

"How d'ye do? How d'ye do?" said the other somewhat pompously. He had made up his mind that nothing was to be made of the young man, and yet he was reluctant to break entirely with one whose purse was well lined and who had sporting proclivities.

"I've been wishing to speak with you for some days, major," said Ezra. "When could I see you?"

"You'll never see me any plainer than you do at this very moment," the old soldier answered, taking a sidelong glance of suspicion at his companion.

"Ah, but I wish to speak to you quietly on a matter of business," the young merchant persisted. "It's a delicate matter, which may need some talking over, and, above all, it is a private matter."

"Gad!" said the major with a wheezy laugh. "You'd have thought I wanted to borrow money if I had said as much. Look here now, we'll go into White's private billiard-room and I'll tell you have two hundred out of five for a tenner—though it's as good as handing you the money to offer you such odds. You can talk this over while we play."

"No, no, major," urged the junior partner. "I tell you it is a matter of the greatest importance to both of us. Can you meet me at Nelson's Café at four o'clock? I can know the manager, and he'll let us have a private room."

"I ask you round to my own little place," the major said, "but it's rather too far. Nelson's at four. Right you are! Punctuality is next to godliness, as our Willoughby of the Buffs used to say. You didn't know Willoughby, eh? Gad, he was second to a man at Gib in '47. He wouldn't turn up on the ground, but the minute Willoughby wanted his man to lead. 'Teach 'em punctuality,' he said. 'Can't be done,' said his man. 'Must be done,' said Willoughby. 'Out of the question,' said the man, and wouldn't budge. Willoughby persisted, there were high words and a quarrel. The docther put 'em up at fifteen paces, and the man shot Willoughby through the calf of the leg. He was a martyr to punctuality. Four—good-bye, bye!" The major nodded pleasantly and swaggered away, flourishing his little cane jauntily in the air.

In spite of his admiration of punctuality as exemplified in the person of Willoughby of the Buffs, the major took good care to arrive at the trying place somewhat behind the appointed time. It was clear to him that some service or other was expected of him, and it was obviously his game therefore to hang back and not appear to be too eager to enter into young Girdlestone's views.

He presented himself at the entrance of Nelson's Café the young merchant had been fuming and chafing in the sitting-room for five and twenty minutes.

"It was a dinky apartment, with a single large horse-hair chair and half-a-dozen small wooden dittoes, placed with mathematical precision along the walls. A square table in the centre, and a shabby mirror over the mantelpiece completed the furniture. With the instinct of an old campaigner the major immediately dropped into the armchair, and leaning luxuriously back, took a cigar from his case and proceeded to light it. Ezra Girdlestone seated himself near the table, and twisted his dark moustache, as was his habit when collecting himself.

"What will you drink?" he asked.

"Anything that's going."

"Fetch in a decanter of brandy and some seltzer water," said Ezra to the waiter. "Then shut the door and leave us entirely to ourselves." When the liquor was placed upon the table he drank off the liquor glass at a gulp, and then refilled it. The hissing glass his upon the mantelpiece beside him without tasting it. Both were endeavouring to be at their best and clearest in the coming interview, and each set about it in his own manner.

"I'll tell you why I wanted to have a chat with you, major," Ezra said, having first opened the door suddenly and glanced out as a precaution against eavesdroppers. "I have to be cautious, because what I have to say affects the interest of the firm. I wouldn't for the world have any one know about it except yourself."

"What is it, my boy?" the major asked, with languid curiosity, puffing at his weed and staring up at the smoke-blackened ceiling.

"You understand that in commercial speculations the least breath of information beforehand may mean a loss of thousands on thousands."

The major nodded his head as a sign that he appreciated this fact.

"We have a difficult enterprise on which we are about to embark," Ezra said, leaning forward, and sinking his voice almost to a whisper. "It is one which will need great skill and tact, though it may be made to pay well if properly managed. You follow me?"

His companion nodded once more.

"For this enterprise we require an agent to perform one of the principal parts. This agent must possess great ability, and, at the same time, be a man on whom we can thoroughly rely. Of course we do not expect to find such qualities without paying for them."

The major grunted a hearty acquiescence.

"My father," continued Ezra, "wanted to employ one of our own men. We have numbers who are capable in every way of managing the business. I interfered, however. I said that I had a good friend, named Major Tobias Clutterbuck, who was well qualified for the position. I mentioned that you were of the blood of the old Silesian king."

"Was I not right?"

"Ah, Milesian! It's all the same."

"It's the nothing of the sort," said the major indignantly.

"I mean it was all the same to my father. He wouldn't know the difference. Well, I told him of your high descent and that you were a traveller, a soldier, and a man of steady and trustworthy habits."

"Eh?" ejaculated the major involuntarily.

"I told him all this," said Ezra slowly, "and I pointed out to him that the sum of money which he was prepared to lay out would be better expended on such a man than on one who had no virtues beyond those of his business."

"I didn't give you credit for so much sense!" his companion exclaimed with enthusiasm.

"I said to him that if the matter were left entirely in your hands he could rely upon its being done thoroughly. At the same time, we would have the satisfaction of knowing that the substantial sum which we are prepared to pay our agent had come into worthy hands."

"You hit it there again," murmured the veteran.

"You are prepared, then," said Ezra glancing keenly at him, "to put yourself at our orders on condition that you are well paid for it?"

"Not so fast, my young friend, not so fast!" said the major, taking his time to rub his lips and ears. "Let's hear what it is that you want me to do, and then I'm ready to say what I'll agree to and what I won't. I remember Jimmy Baxter in Texas—"

"Hang Jimmy Baxter!" Ezra cried impatiently. "That's been done already," observed the major calmly. "Lynched for horse-stealing in '66. However, go on, and I'll promise not to stop you until you have finished."

Ezra encouraged the major to unfold the paper upon which the fortunes of the House of Girdlestone depended. Not a word did he say of ruin or danger, or the reasons which had induced this speculation. On the contrary, he depicted the affairs of the firm as being in a most flourishing condition, and this venture as simply a small insignificant offshoot from their business, undertaken as much for amusement as for any serious purpose. Still, he laid stress upon the fact that though the sum in question was a small one to the firm, yet it was a very large one in other men's eyes. As to the morality of the scheme, that was a point which Ezra omitted entirely to touch upon. Any comment upon that would, he felt, be superfluous when dealing with such a man as his companion.

"And now, major," he concluded, "provided you lend us your name and your talents to help us in our speculation the firm are prepared to meet you in a most liberal spirit in the matter of remuneration. Of course, your voyage and your munition will be handsomely paid. You will have to travel by steamer to St. Petersburg, provided that we choose the Ural Mountains as the scene of our imaginary find. I hear that there is high play going on aboard those boats, and with your well-known skill you will no doubt be able to make the voyage a remunerative one. We calculate that at the most you will be in Russia about three months. Now, the first thing that we need is a very large one in other men's eyes. As to the morality of the scheme, that was a point which Ezra omitted entirely to touch upon. Any comment upon that would, he felt, be superfluous when dealing with such a man as his companion."

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composed, but there was a dangerous glitter in his eyes, and his face had turned from a healthy olive to a dull yellow tint.

"You won't do it?" he gasped.

"Do it! I do think a man who wears her Majesty's coat jacket for twenty years would dirty his hands with such a trick? I tell you, I wouldn't do it for all the money that ever was coined. Look here, Girdlestone, I know you, but, by the Lord, you don't know me!"

The young merchant sat silently in his chair, with the same livid colour upon his face and savage expression in his eyes. Major Tobias Cl



"J. H." sends me the following interesting letter with reference to my idea of abolition meeting above London Bridge, and, as he seems to be an ancient angler of considerable experience

Fifty years back Moenles was esteem  
a great musician, but few of his work  
survived him. He was an excellent teach  
of the piano and a skillful performer on  
instrument. He was always playing mus  
forward, long after he had been eclipse by gre  
pianists. One night, about twenty years ago  
met him at a musical soiree given by the late  
E. M. Ward. E. A. The elite of the Italian

The opposite to albinism is melanism, which consists in the superabundance of colouring matter in an animal, which gives it a very dark, or even black appearance. Leopards are thus sometimes found black, and so are tigers. Black cats are, of course, common enough, and I serve to illustrate my phenomenon, and black bullfinches are by no means uncommon. How can you like to see a black cat? How can you like to see a black bullfinch? This very interesting question I would do better than visit the Natural History Museum at South Kensington, where they will find two excellently arranged cases, with descriptions

Very observable is the scanty show made

The Earl of Coventry and Sir James Whithead, the late Lord Mayor, have joined the Society for the Prevention of Hydrophobia. Lord Coventry was a member of the Select Committee of the House of Lords on Rab-







## BRITISH WINES.

**GENUINE**

GENUINE BRITISH WINES.  
**B** BRITISH WINES.  
 GENUINE BRITISH WINES.

**BRITISH WINES.**  
 GINGER, GENUINE BRITISH WINES.  
 GREEN GINGER,  
 ORANGE,  
 RICH MALAGA,  
 RICH MALAGA PALE,  
 DRY MALAGA.

**BRITISH WINES.**  
GENUINE BRITISH WINES.  
DRY RAISIN.  
RICH RAISIN.  
DRY SUN.  
PORT.  
SHERRY.  
CALCARELLA

**BRITISH WINES.**  
GENUINE BRITISH WINES  
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ELDER,  
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straightforward discussion of the same subject by Mr. BALFOUR at Edinburgh. Mr. BALFOUR means to keep Home Rule, wearisome though the subject be, well to the



fore, as the supreme political question of the day. What, asks Mr. Balfour, is the sort of Home Rule scheme that will permanently satisfy the Irish people? History proves that such a measure as Mr. Gladstone proposed in 1886 would never fulfil that condition. A scheme of that kind, a scheme of the sort which "gives a country an assembly which manages what are called its own affairs, but which is yet not a supreme assembly in the sense in which the British Parliament is supreme," was tried in Ireland previous to 1782. What happened? The Nationalists of that time were utterly dissatisfied with it. It did not satisfy their "national aspirations." Such a subordinate Parliament was declared to be incompatible with the freedom of the Irish nation. The demand for absolute control was granted by the establishment of "Grattan's Parliament," with such unhappy results to Ireland that in the year 1800 the Union had to be established. Supposing that a subordinate Parliament were once again set up in Ireland, is there the slightest reason for believing that it would be regarded as anything but a half-way house, a stepping-stone, to complete legislative independence? Mr. PARNELL professes to believe, and perhaps does believe, that a subordinate Parliament would fully satisfy the hearts of his fellow-countrymen. But even if Mr. PARNELL was satisfied, it may be predicted with perfect safety that his lieutenants, on both sides of the Atlantic, would not be. Complete legislative independence, with, ultimately, the severance of the "last link" of the Crown, would then be the order of the day. Doubtless, England could control those aspirations by force of arms, as she would, most assuredly, be compelled to do. But Englishmen have no desire for a desperate civil war with their fellow-subjects. And that being so, they are not likely to give themselves up blindfold to the guidance of Mr. GLADSTONE—that the blind may lead the blind into so terrible an abyss.

We cannot reprobate too strongly the conduct of the Gas Workers' Trade Union in threatening a strike in the South London district. The union proposes to take this step in consequence of the offer by the South Metropolitan Gas Company to its employees of a bonus upon the profits of the company. In fact the company is making its men participants in the fruits of their labour—an admirable arrangement, and one which has been accepted by about a thousand of the men. Now, the prospect of a compact body of contented men sharing in the profits made by their labour and their employers' capital does not suit the officials of any trade union. These wretched live by the discontent of the working man, and when the working man ceases to have a grievance the trade union officials' occupation will be gone. Hence this astounding attempt to coerce employers and employed by threatening a strike if the directors do not dismiss the so-called "black legs." We earnestly hope that public opinion will sustain the directors in a firm determination to stand out for the individual liberty of their men against the despotism of the trade union clique.

There are some remarkably curious and interesting details in the balance-sheet of the Dockers' Strike Fund, which has at last been published. With regard to the receipts, it is worthy of notice that the British trade unions and similar societies only contributed £4,000 all told, and foreign countries only £107. If, therefore, it had not been for the generosity of the colonies and of the public, the much vaunted "federation of labour" would have been a mighty poor figure. But the items of expenditure are more striking still. Here we find the leaders charging £107, £65, and £28 for "cab fares." Then there is £52 for "travelling fares." One would like to know why "sundry persons" got £407 among them. Above all, how comes it that the council came in for £166, when all the world believed the councillors were working out of pure love for their fellow-men? All these points suggest reflections of one kind or another, one of which certainly is that the trade of a professional agitator is not as badly paid as some industries, which are, perhaps, not less meritorious.

#### MR. GLADSTONE'S CHORUS.

Sir, I could not help wondering how it was that there appeared so much enthusiasm exhibited at Mr. Gladstone's visit in Manchester until I found it was principally made up of his own adherents and Irish followers, who not only do not live in Manchester, but have no interest in it whatever. For example, I found collected in one hotel Mr. Power, M.P., and four other Irish members at another hotel I found a large influx of visitors, so many, in fact, that a friend with me remarked that he had never seen so many persons in any one place, although he is a constant visitor. The question arises, does Mr. Gladstone take his audience with him when he goes to make a speech, so as to ensure a good attendance? I have heard of actors and music hall singers engaging boys and men to applaud them, but hardly expected to find the G.O.M. have recourse to the same means.—Yours, &c.,  
A MANCHESTER CONSERVATIVE.

#### THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD SCANDAL.

At a meeting of the London School Board on Thursday, the Rev. J. Diggle presiding, several questions were asked by Mr. Lobb and answered by Mr. Helby as to defects in the workmanship of particular schools at Marylebone, Brixton, and Chelsea, showing that in some cases the drainage pipes were not so well "jointed" as they might have been. Some of the questions and answers were received with derisive laughter. Afterwards Mr. Foster moved for proceedings for the following resolution:—"That steps be forthwith taken for obtaining an independent and thorough examination of all the buildings erected by the board, and of their present condition; that the Works Committee be requested to take immediate steps for the purpose of carrying out the foregoing resolution, reporting thereon to the board."—On a division the motion for proceedings was rejected, by 22 against 14.—Mr. L. Stanley then resumed the adjourned debate on the report of the Finance Committee, complaining that the expenditure was £140,000 more as compared with the estimate put before the board in February last. He said this was an enormous discrepancy.—Several other members continued the discussion.

#### THE WEEK'S DIVORCE CASES.

##### THE COUNT AND THE LADY.

In the case of Hamilton v. Hamilton and Palermo, which came before the Divorce Court during the past week, the petitioner, Mr. Julius Lawrence Hamilton, alleged adultery of his wife with Count Roberto Palermo, an officer in the Italian cavalry. Bessie West denied the charges, and alleged cruelty and adultery against the petitioner, which he denied.—The parties had been married nine years, and lived first in London and afterwards at Florence. The parties both possessed considerable means. While the petitioner was in May, 1887, the respondent went to a fancy ball in Florence with the co-respondent and his mother, the Comtesse de Palermo. The petitioner heard that the respondent and co-respondent were at the ball, and went on to the ball-room together. He afterwards found a letter from the co-respondent in his wife's box which read:—"My adored Mary, it is but a few hours since I left thee. I miss thee so much that I almost believe it is a century since I saw your large black eyes." The letter went on to state, "What would I not give to clasp thee again in my arms, to feel thy heart beat against mine, and to tell thee I love thee." It went on to say that the respondent had written thousands of kisses from the woman who adores thee for life, and went on to say that her portrait was always on his chest.

—The respondent, it was alleged, confessed her guilt, and was forgiven by the petitioner. Her subsequent conduct, however, induced him to take these proceedings. According to the petitioner's evidence, when he told his wife about the letter she exclaimed, "Good God! if you have a letter like that, I am utterly ruined." She got into a rage, called him "a pickpocket," "Paul Pry," spat upon him, and subsequently followed him up by a fit of hysterics. After the respondent freely confessed that on the night of the ball she misconducted herself with Count Palermo.—Mr. Bayford: What else did she say?—Witness: She told me to go to the devil. (Laughter.)—Mr. Bayford: Whereupon you went to your solicitor?—Witness: Yes. (Great laughter.)—The respondent, Mrs. Mary Hamilton, in her evidence stated that her husband was often strange and violent.

##### SHE DENIED THE ADULTERY.

She remembered receiving a letter from the count, which she put in her box, but she never answered it. Her husband, upon finding it, asked what it meant, and she told him she did not know. He never suggested anything improper to her. She said, "What was I to do?" She denied having ever admitted to him that she was unfaithful.—Cross-examined: She first met the co-respondent while paying an afternoon call at Florence.—Did any form of endearment take place between you and Count Palermo on that evening? No. I was with the countess, his mother, and only left her to dance. Like most Italians, he was very flowery in his language. (Laughter.)—Were you surprised at the tone of the letter he addressed to you? Every girl living in Italy knows that Italians do write these sort of letters. (Laughter.)—Is it your experience? No. (Laughter.) But I have been told so by my friends.—Were there any terms of endearment between you and the count? Certainly not.—Did he ever kiss or embrace you? No.—Can you explain his paragraph in his letter, "What would I not give to clasp thee again in my arms, to feel thy heart beat against mine, &c.?" He referred to dancing with me at the ball. I do not know what else he said. (Laughter.)—The evidence, taken on commission, of Count Roberto Palermo was then read. He deposed that he was 25 years of age. On the night of the historical ball he went there in a costume of the fifteenth century, with his mother and Mrs. Hamilton. They all returned from the ball to the supper. He denied that on their return he went into Mrs. Hamilton's bedroom and committed adultery with her. There he never admitted any conversation with her. After the evidence, the jury found for the petitioner upon all the issues.—Mr. Justice Butt granted a decree nisi, with costs against the co-respondent, and custody of the children.—Upon application the respondent was also condemned in costs, as she had a separate estate.

##### AN ELOPEMENT TO THE CONTINENT.

Mr. Ralph Thomas, solicitor, Chancery-lane, sought a divorce by reason of his wife's adultery with the co-respondent, Mr. William Henry Powell, an architect, against whom damages were claimed. It was stated that the petitioner married the respondent in August, 1876, at Teddington, there being one child. They lived first of all in Doughty-street, and afterwards in Hornsey-lane. Subsequently Mr. Thomas had a serious illness, and went to the Mediterranean, after which he and his wife lived in chambers at Clifford's Inn. In 1885 they became acquainted with Mr. and Mrs. Powell, who lived at Alstree, and frequent visits took place between the two families. In August, 1888, they went for their usual month's holiday to Lowestoft. In the following September the petitioner went to Oxford for the purpose of rowing down the river, and in the meantime his wife went to spend a week's holiday with her sister. Subsequently she received a communication from his wife's sister that Mrs. Thomas had no more to do with her. Inquiries were made, and it appeared that the respondent had eloped to the continent with Mr. Powell. From Dinan Mrs. Thomas wrote to her husband, who subsequently sent his clerk to Guernsey, where the respondent and co-respondent were found to be living together. As to the claim for damages, Mrs. Thomas, a short time before she left her husband, came into a substantial sum of money by reason of the death of her father, and she thought that a sum should be assessed, under the circumstances. It had been agreed, subject to the sanction of the court, that the amount should be £500.—His lordship, in directing the jury, said if they saw no reason to the contrary, they could assess the amount which had been agreed upon.—The jury found for the petitioner, and assessed the damages at £500.—A decree nisi, with costs, was granted.

##### THRASHING A BARBISTER.

Mr. John Wood, of Whitefield House, Derby, and Southold Gardens, Kensington, barrister-at-law, asked for a dissolution of marriage with his wife, Estelle, on the ground of her misconduct with the co-respondent, Mr. Trevor White, also a barrister-at-law. There was no defence. The petitioner said he was married to the respondent on the 30th of April, 1885, and they lived together until 1889. In 1885 they made the acquaintance of the co-respondent, and he visited them both at Whitefield House and also at musical parties at their house at Kensington. In March of the present year witness was suddenly called from London by the serious illness of his mother, and on his return he found the respondent gone. He subsequently discovered that she was living with the co-respondent at Vernon Chambers, Southampton-row, as his wife. He had had the good fortune to meet the co-respondent since the flight of the respondent, and, as he had administered to him a sound thrashing, he did not press the claim for damages.—The cohabitation of the parties at Vernon Chambers having been proved, the jury found for the petitioner, and his lordship granted a decree nisi, with costs.

##### THE DOCTOR AND THE BARMAID.

Mr. Charles Targett prayed for the dissolution of his marriage on the ground of the misconduct of his wife with the co-respondent, Dr. Pilkington, of Trinity-square.—The parties were married in 1878, the petitioner being at the time a house-keeper. Being unwell, the respondent took various situations, the respondent getting an engagement at the restaurant of the Eastern Hotel at London Bridge, as barmaid, where she made the acquaintance of the co-respondent. Some time after that the respondent went with the co-respondent to Felixstowe, where they lived together as man and wife.—Counsel for the co-respondent mitigation of damages, urged that Dr. Pilkington did not know that the respondent was married.

woman when he first made her acquaintance.—There was no denial of the allegations made by the petitioner.—The jury assessed the damages at £500.—His lordship granted a decree nisi, with costs.

##### 44,000 DAMAGES.

Mr. John Bush, a solicitor, at Bath, prayed for the dissolution of his marriage on the ground of the misconduct of his wife with the co-respondent, Mr. Alexander Anderson, a gentleman of fortune, residing at Farnworth Hall, Liverpool. There was no defence, but damages were claimed.—Mr. Justice Butt said the parties were married in June, 1882, the lady being the daughter of Colonel Stammers, a gentleman of position in Bath. In the autumn of 1888 Mr. and Mrs. Bush made the acquaintance of the co-respondent at Llandudno. He was a gentleman of fortune, and resided at Farnworth Hall, Liverpool. Some short time after that Mr. Anderson paid his addresses to Miss Stammers, sister of Mrs. Bush, and thus he had opportunity of visiting Mr. Bush's house as often as he pleased. He made valuable presents to Miss Stammers, and went the length of taking a house in Bath and asking Mrs. Bush to superintend the furnishing of it. This was done, but it would appear, from what took place afterwards, that the co-respondent only paid his attentions to the sister to enable him to make love to Mrs. Bush. In the latter part of 1888 Mr. Bush had to come to London on business, and Anderson saw him off at the railway station. Anderson, Mrs. Bush, and the child followed the same afternoon, and on arrival in London they stayed at the Cannon-street Hotel. Mr. Bush heard that his wife had left Bath, and he spoke to the co-respondent on the subject. The petitioner suggested the name of a gentleman who he supposed was the offender, and Anderson agreed with him, and further, he (Anderson) offered to go to Italy to look after Mrs. Bush. He went, but it was only to live with Mrs. Bush a short time; then he returned to London, representing he had been unsuccessful. Eventually Anderson was accused as regards the Monday of Anderson. He was later that watched, and it was ultimately discovered that he was living with Mrs. Bush at Buda Pesth as his wife, they having the child of Mrs. Bush with them. Subsequently Anderson came to London and made a clean breast of it, and when he found he could not get out of the matter, he said the petitioner could do what he liked with him.—Mr. John Bush, the petitioner, replying to Mr. Justice Butt, he said that the co-respondent actually carried his wife to Mrs. Bush's sister, Mr. Justice Butt said it was a case in which exemplary damages ought to be awarded, as the name of the petitioner had been outraged.—The jury assessed the damages at £44,000.

##### A REMARKABLE CASE.

In the case of Thirkettle v. Thirkettle, Waller, and Francis, the wife in the first petition sought a divorce by reason of the alleged cruelty and adultery of her husband, Dr. George Thirkettle, a hop merchant of Leeds, while in the second the husband sought a divorce on the ground of his wife's alleged adultery with General Francis, a retired Indian officer, who was her husband's brother-in-law. William Waller, Esq., Advocate General, was counsel for the husband. Answers had been filed denying the charges. A peculiar feature of the case was that Mr. Thirkettle, who was at first represented by Mr. Bayford, Q.C., and Mr. Searle, conducted his case in person, his counsel having retired owing to great divergence of opinion as to the questions to be asked.—Jessie Barker, formerly housemaid to Mr. Waller, said that on one occasion Mrs. Thirkettle said that on one occasion Mrs. Thirkettle had seen him kiss her several times in her presence. On two occasions she tried to get into Mrs. Thirkettle's bedroom, but found the door locked. Afterwards she saw Mr. Waller coming out. One morning, about nine o'clock she took some hot water into Mrs. Thirkettle's bedroom, and found her and Mr. Waller in bed. When Mrs. Thirkettle came down to dinner she told the witness that nothing of it, as it was a brotherly friendship. (Laughter.) She had seen Mr. Waller sitting at the foot of the bed when it was occupied by Mrs. Thirkettle.—In cross-examination, the witness said that she had a quarrel with Mr. Waller about a barrel of beer.

##### A BARREL OF BEER.

(Laughter.) She had told him that he was a scamp. Her husband challenged him to fight. (Renewed laughter.) Her marriage was at a barrel of beer from Mr. Waller and the half of a dinner service from Mrs. Waller. (Laughter.) Mr. Waller came out openly from the bedroom and made no excuse to witness. She certainly saw them in bed, and was very much shocked. She remained in the service six months afterwards. She never mentioned the matter to her mistress, but thought her master could do as he liked in his own house. (Laughter.) A letter from General Francis to Mrs. Thirkettle was read. It thanked her for her letter and went on to state:—"I am sorry to hear that he will not agree to a separation. I am afraid it will be a long time before the business is settled. If your sister were to visit me, I could not accept it. It would not be prudent." It further stated that Mr. Thirkettle, being a jealous man, would employ a detective to watch him, and added "law business is slow." (Laughter.)—Mr. Justice Butt: It certainly is sometimes. (Renewed laughter.)—The letter continued:—"The thought of this long separation from you makes me very unhappy. At my time of life I cannot afford to wait—(laughter)—and yet I must be so. (Renewed laughter.) I am a religious man, and nothing but your dear society can cheer me. Pray write and cheer me up. I greatly need it. With

##### LOTS OF LOVE.

you devotedly, J. FRANCIS."—Robert Bowater, formerly agent to Mr. Waller, said that his master used to kiss Mrs. Thirkettle. He noticed that she was in a "brother-in-law" way. (Laughter.)—Testimony was then adduced that at the Imperial Hotel, Bournemouth, Mr. and Mrs. Waller and Mrs. Thirkettle stayed, and afterwards General Francis came to stay there; and that General Francis and Mrs. Thirkettle had driven out together.—Robert Henry Bowater, formerly companion to Mr. Waller, gave evidence as to driving Mrs. Thirkettle and General Francis to a house in Duke-street, St. James's, upon two occasions. He saw them enter the house. When he served the divorce papers Mrs. Thirkettle tore them up.—In cross-examination, he said that he was a cabman. He had been a process-server and was allowed £2 10s. a week for about eleven weeks by Mr. Thirkettle's solicitor. He was allowed a "gratuity" of £10 for his expenses.—Mr. Thirkettle: You will swear to that.—Witness: Ain't I swearing. (Laughter.)—To Mr. Justice Butt: In all he received about £20.—Elizabeth Puleston, formerly in the service of a lodging-house keeper at Balham, said that Mrs. Thirkettle lodged at the house. General Francis visited her there.—Mr. Thirkettle: How long did he stay?—The witness: No, so long once because she was with a friend.—(Laughter.)—Who was the gentleman? Mr. Minns, who was deeply in love with her.—His lordship pointed out that there was no charge against this gentleman.—The witness believed that she identified General Francis now in court. He was "a stout, big gentleman." (Laughter.) A number of gentlemen came backwards and forwards to the house, which, in the opinion of the witness, was not so stable. Mrs. Thirkettle used to go out to dances, of which she was very fond. Upon one occasion she said that she was very much annoyed that she could not go to Egypt, as she had been served with some divorce papers.—Mr. Thirkettle went into the witness-box, and gave an emphatic denial to the charges of cruelty. His wife used to "nag" him. Once she irritated him, and he threw some whisky and water across the table. She picked up a tumbler and threw it at him. It missed him, struck the wall, and was shivered to pieces. He assisted one act of adultery, and said that was the only fault he had committed against his wife.—Mrs. Thirkettle (reclaimed) gave an emphatic denial to the charge of adultery.

either with General Francis or Mr. Waller. The latter had kissed her, as she was his sister-in-law. What had been said about General Francis falling in love with her was a joke. From one occasion she, Mr. and Mrs. Waller, and General Francis went together to the Albion. General Francis had called on her and taken tea with her.—The case was adjourned.

#### MR. BALFOUR AND THE SCOTCH UNION'S S.

Mr. Balfour was entertained on Wednesday evening at a grand banquet by the Unionists of Scotland in Edinburgh, the Duke of Fife presiding. Responding to the toast of his health, the Chief Secretary maintained that the sentiment of nationality was really stronger in Scotland than in Ireland, and the good results which had followed from a union in the one case would be attained in the other also, in spite of the greater difficulties. A Home Rule Parliament had been tried in Ireland, and had been rejected; an independent Parliament had failed; and those who now asked for a domestic legislature in Dublin would never be content with it, but in their hearts aspired to separation. Mr. Balfour was received with extraordinary enthusiasm.

#### SARAH BERNHARDT'S DREAM.

Madame Sarah Bernhardt is a firm believer in the marvellous and, as yet, unexplainable. She has related that when at New York, on her first American tour, she woke up one night, after a terrible dream, in which she had seen her son Maurice bitten by two mad dogs. The vision made such an impression on her mind that early next morning she telegraphed to Maurice, and received the reply that he had been bitten by two dogs, but that the wounds in his arm were not serious. Moreover, the dogs were not rabid, but had been immediately killed. Madame Bernhardt could, she affirms, mention numerous other circumstances in her life which it would be impossible to put down to mere chance or coincidence.

#### TERRIBLE TRAMCAR ACCIDENT.

A shocking accident occurred on Wednesday evening on the Allerton section of the Bradford Steam Tramways. An engine and a car, conveying about twelve passengers from the centre of the town, were running up a steep incline near the Allerton terminus, when the coupling connecting them parted. Despite the fact that the guard applied the brakes the car ran down the hill at a rapid rate, left the rails, and, coming into collision with a lamp-post, overturned. Eleven persons sustained injuries. The five most serious cases were taken to the infirmary, and the other passengers were taken home in cabs. Amongst those admitted to the infirmary was a man named Fred Greenwood, who had both legs and an arm broken, besides having sustained grave injuries to the body. It was seen at once that his case was hopeless, and he died about an hour after his admittance. The other passengers are suffering mostly from general bruising and shock. The car was smashed to pieces.

#### A SCOTCH CLERGYMAN SPEAKS HIS MIND.

The Rev. Robert Thompson the other night urged the Glasgow Presbytery to do something to put down sacred concerts in churches on Sunday evenings. He held that instead of some of the Glasgow churches being houses of God, they were houses of the god of music. Amid interruption, he stated that if they advertised a first-class ballet to take place in a church, and that the congregation in the congregation and neighbourhood would show themselves in tight, the church could be crammed and they would not be in a worse position than at present. The moderator indignantly ordered Mr. Thompson to resume his seat, and the matter dropped.

#### A BETTING RAID IN WEST HAM.

Edward Hart, the landlord of the Telegraph beerhouse, Leyton-road, Stratford; William Charles, the landlord of the Forester beerhouse, Wadlington-street, Stratford; and Albert Meyers, a tobacconist, of Angel-lane, Stratford, were summoned at the West Ham Police Court, under the Betting House Act, for using their houses for the purpose of betting on horse racing during October and November. There were eight cases against Hart, six against Charles, and five against Meyers.—Mr. Sharman, for the defence, said that each of the defendants would plead guilty, and he asked the magistrate to accept that plea on one or two of the informations, and not to entertain the others. He had no desire to burden the records of the court, and he did not wish to further burden the defendants by increasing the length of their words to pay. Inspector H. Rusby said that in consequence of recent complaints received by the police, strange officers to the district were employed to keep observation on the houses of the defendants. On certain days several persons were seen to go into the houses occupied by the defendants. They had money and various slips of paper, which had on them the names of horses that were running, and were about to run, in races. The defendants had been cautioned before these proceedings were taken. Betting seemed to have been carried on to a very large extent, principally in small sums.—The defendants were each fined £10 and costs.

#### A WIFE'S "FREAK."

At the Nottingham Assizes, Teresa Elizabeth Brideman, on bail, was indicted for shooting at Robert Bridgeman, her husband, with intent to murder him, at Mansfield, on October 5th.—The prosecutor, a sergeant-instructor of Volunteers, was sitting in the kitchen of his house with another man when a rifle was discharged outside, and the bullet came through the window and lodged in the mantelpiece. The prosecutor rushed out and found it was his wife who had fired the shot.—He did not wish to prosecute, and the woman was now discharged, the judge warning her not to play such freaks in future.

#### DETERMINED PRIZE FIGHT NEAR LONDON.

A determined prize fight took place early on Thursday morning between "Grip" Davis, of Bournemouth, and George Crackett, of Kennington. Both men are potent, and the dispute as to their merits ended in their respective employers each putting up a stake of £7 10s. for their men. George Land and Henry Jacques acted for Crackett, while a local pugilist was referee. The venue, which was selected on a favourite "pitch" not many miles from the Surrey Docks and Canal, had been kept secret, and not more than thirty persons were present. At the outset 6 to 5 was offered on Davis, and was freely accepted. On the men entering the ring for the first round it was evident that the fight could resolve itself into a question of pluck and endurance, science being practically ignored. On facing each other they set to work in earnest, Davis fighting for the chest and ribs, whilst Crackett kept hammering away at his opponent's head. In the ninth round, when sent from their corners, the men presented a pitiable appearance, Davis' features being battered and one eye completely closed, whilst Crackett's body and ribs were one mass of bruises. For the tenth round, however, both men came up strong, and after a few slight exchanges Crackett, closed with his man and threw him heavily, dislocating his ankle. He was carried to his corner, and as he could not stand, Crackett was declared the winner.

#### FATAL FIRE AT CANNING TOWN.

Mr. Wynne E. Barker, the coroner for East London, has held an inquiry at the town hall, Poplar, into the circumstances attending the death of Louisa Eleanor Bowden, aged 55 years, the daughter of a painter, of 19, Forest-canning Town, who was burnt to death at a fire which occurred on Monday last.—The mother stated that about two o'clock in the day she put the deceased to bed, as usual, and being a delicate and sickly child. She then left her way about twenty minutes when she was fetched by a person, who told her that her house was on fire. She ran home as fast as possible, and found that the deceased had been taken to the hospital.—A verdict of accidental death was returned.

#### TERRIBLE SCENE AT A FIRE.

The office of the Tribune newspaper, at Minneapolis, was burned down a few nights ago. The building consisted of eight stories, and the fire started in the third story and spread rapidly to all parts of the building. The composing-room of the Tribune was on the seventh floor, and in this were twenty-five to one hundred compositors. Suddenly one of the large plate-glass windows was smashed, and a dozen men in shirt sleeves appeared, and cried to the horror-stricken crowd below, "Send us up a rope, for God's sake! We are burning up!" The fire-escape worked but slowly, but by means of it many of the men were saved. One of the telegraph operators, however, met with a fearful death. He was seen to come to the window, but apparently unconscious of the proximity of the fire-escape, mounted the window sill and made a jump. His body came whirling downward, and fell on the telegraph wires below. Then it bounded off and crashed upon the pavement. Life was extinct when the body was picked up by the police. A second horrible death was that of Professor Edward Olsen, president of the University of South Dakota. He was in the building visiting a friend who was an editorial writer. He was seen to escape from a window overlooking an alley in the fifth story, and stand on the sill a moment. Then he jumped, and fell into the alley and was instantly killed. It is thought that he tried to escape downstairs and, becoming confused, ran to the window, and, blinded and choked by smoke, took his fatal leap before he knew what he was doing. Professor Olsen ranked as one of the best Greek scholars in the United States.

#### A Fearful Alternative.

A merchant who was in the composing-room to see about an advertisement for the paper was seen to appear at a window and jump. His body landed in the street a crushed and shapeless mass. Another man was seen to climb a window sill in the composing-room, and look alternately at the distance to the street and the flames behind. A certain and horrible death awaited him either way. Suddenly he drew a revolver from his pocket, put it to his head, and fired, falling into the flames behind him. These frightful scenes were enacted in the plain sight of thousands gathered in the streets. The occupants of the house came rushing down the stairs with bare faces and hands, among them the editor of the paper, who was in his private office on the sixth story when the fire broke out. It was sheer luck that any one escaped at all, for the entire lower part of the building was ablaze before those on the sixth and seventh storeys knew anything about it. A portion of the outer walls fell in about half an hour after the fire broke out, and it is feared that several persons were buried beneath the ruins.

#### THE FRENCH "JACK THE RIPPER."

Dagga, the French "Jack the Ripper," has been condemned to the guillotine for the series of murders perpetrated by him at Pont-a-Mousson. The prisoner became livid when his sentence was read out to him, and exclaimed that the court could not condemn him, as it had no proofs that the crimes with which he was charged had been committed by him. The result of the trial was received with applause both inside and outside the court.

#### LORD CLIFTON AND THE BAILIFFS.

At Margate, Henry Bodd, William Conlee, William Haman, and Henry Hopper were charged with unlawfully breaking and entering the house of Lord Clifton, at Dampton, on the 9th of November.—A receiving order in bankruptcy was recently made against Lord Clifton, who was told by the official receiver that if he gave a full inventory of his property and substantial security it should not be removed and he would not be put to the indignity of having a man in possession. In reply, Lord Clifton wrote that he totally ignored the proceedings and repudiated any authority on the part of the official receiver or any one else to take possession of his property, and threatened to shoot any one who dared to put the receiving order into effect, and kick out the men who took possession. The defendants were unable to take possession for several days, but on the morning of the 9th of November, whilst the inmates were in bed, the men gained entrance by the kitchen window. On behalf of Lord Clifton it was contended that the entrance was illegal, but Mr. H. F. Dickens argued that, in face of threats alleged, the men were within their right in entering as they did to prevent a breach of the peace.—The magistrates supported this view, and dismissed the case.

#### A THIEVES' SUPPER.

At the annual supper given by the St. Giles' Christian Mission to members of the criminal classes, in Little Wild-street, Drury-lane, a large number of men assembled and partook of an ample repast, consisting of beef, plum pudding, and cheese, with tea and coffee. Subsequently, there was a general assembly in the chapel belonging to the mission. Earl Compton, M.P., presided.—The report presented showed that during the year 19,900 prisoners were discharged from the four metropolitan prisons. Of these, 15,978 accepted invitations to breakfast, and 4,950 signed the temperance pledge. Besides these, 4,359 men and boys were assisted in other ways. Those connected with the mission congratulated themselves upon the continuing decrease in the criminal statistics, and the decrease which had been particularly marked during the twelve years in which the work of the society had been carried on among discharged prisoners.—Mr. W. Wheatley, the secretary of the mission, announced that he commissioners of police had forwarded £240 and the names of 135 employers who were willing to take on men at his recommendation.

#### THE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST THE SALVATION ARMY.

At the Dalton Police Court on Wednesday, the young woman, Mary Ann Turner, came again before Mr. Haden Corser, with the complaint that she had been brought to London from Stoke Newington by the Salvation Army, and that she was unkindly treated and could not get home again.—Mr. Roman, who appeared for Mrs. Bramwell Booth, said inquiries showed that the girl had a very indifferent character, and was sent to the "Folly Lane" by the Salvation Army. Mrs. Booth did not bring the girl or ask her to come, neither did she pay the fare to London.—Mr. Haden Corser: I understood that this was a case where the girl had been induced to come to London by religious enthusiasm, and then left on her own resources. But from a letter I have here from Mr. William, a gentleman whom I personally know, there is quite a different complexion put upon the matter. Turner: They had me at the Rescue Home, and worked me so hard that I was ill.—Mr. Haden Corser: What work?—Turner: Washing.—Mr. Haden Corser: Is not that work usual to women?—Mr. Roman: She was thoroughly lazy.—Turner: I'll show you the Salvation Army yet. I'll do something, and I'll get home again if I walk all the way. I'll start, if I drop dead on the road.—Mr. Haden Corser: There is no necessity for that. You go to the workhouse, and they will make arrangements to send you to your own parish.—Turner: I'll not go to the workhouse.—Mr. Haden Corser: Then you must take your own course.—Turner left the court vowing vengeance against the Salvation Army and Mr. William.

#### REPORTED ELOPEMENT OF AN ACTRESS' WIFE.

According to the London correspondent of a provincial paper, the wife of a London actor is said to have eloped with an ironmaster from the north of England. They were traced, so it is rumoured, as far as Paris, but there disappeared. As it was in Spain, and from inquiry it is believed that they "tacked" back to Havre and set sail for America. The husband of the lady, however, following the example of another actor who recently appeared in the Divorce Court, simply remarked:—"Well, let them be. I am delighted. I hope he will be."



**City Summons Court.**

**Marlborough-street.**

**Worship-street.**

**West London.**

1000

**Lambeth.**

Southwark.

## Greenwich.

**Dalston.**

## Stratford.

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— *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997

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### Distressing Circumstances.

daughters, Ada, aged 14, and Edith, age

### The Husband's Evidence--Ou

### A "Wild Look."

## Tear Open the Wound

On Saturday a telegram was received from

**THE BABY FARMING CASE.**

— 2004 年 12 月 24 日 星期五 —

There was some more test angling in Bray

### A SERIOUS CHARGE DISMISSED.

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Continental and American prison reformers.

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**DEARSI SOAP** From Hair to Nails and

**Praxis Exam** **Writing Subtest**

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

(Signed)  
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very best.

keeping the skin soft, free from redness

— "MARIE BOKE."

Tablet, unscented, is sold at 6d.) Insin-

attract the public into their shops or stores by making them more attractive.



## AN IRISH BREACH OF PROMISE CASE.

In the Dublin Exchequer Division this week, Mr. Bodkin moved in the case of M'Donnell v. Gallagher that the case be remitted for trial to

the county court judge of Boscomon. The action was to recover damages, laid at \$500, for breach of promise of marriage. The parties are of the farming class, and reside in the county of Boscomon.—Counsel stated that the plaintiff desired to call for a deposition of the defendant at the house of her father, who is the late of Norway, and asked him to go to his father's house. He did go, and the plaintiff's father asked him if it was marrying he came about. There had been no talk previously about marriage nor any courtship. The plaintiff's father spoke of a fortune, and said that no fortune was good if it was paid at the house. He said he would like a fortune. Defendant had no answer ready. He at this time did not know which of his daughters he meant, and he asked him, "Was it Mary Anne?" meaning the younger sister of the plaintiff. "No," replied the plaintiff's father, "it is Catherine." The defendant replied, "It is not Mary Anne." The plaintiff's father said he would pay the fortune the morning day. It was taken for granted that he would marry Catherine.

### A Bottle of Whisky

was produced, and defendant took three glasses of it. Though he was not drunk, he was "softened" by the whisky. The mother kept on praising her daughter all the time, saying she was the best girl in the parish. By-and-by the father and mother left the room, and the plaintiff came over and pushed her arm round his neck and kissed him. The defendant's affidavit further stated that he had never before taken any notice of the girl about her looks or marriage. The Tuesday following was looked for the marriage, and on Sunday before the defendant sent a message to the plaintiff's father to the effect that he would not marry the plaintiff as he had taken a dislike to her. He afterwards met the plaintiff's father in the house of the parish priest, and in the parish priest's presence he told him back to her father that he would not marry her, as he had taken a dislike to her. The plaintiff's father told him to take it, and the defendant then handed it to Father O'Brien. The defendant further swore that he was wholly taken by surprise by the sudden and unexpected proposal of marriage, and that was made to him, and that he would never have consented to it had he had any reasonable

### Time for Reflection.

He was willing to pay any reasonable sum for the breach of promise that he was entrapped into. The amount expended in preparation for the marriage could not have exceeded \$10, and should the defendant obtain a verdict the plaintiff had no means of paying the costs.—A number of affidavits had been made on the other side. "I was by the plaintiff's brother, who was a witness, and he told me that he had seen this matter. In this affidavit the clerk M'Donnell stated that he visited the defendant in consequence of some conversation with a man named Kilroy, and had a conversation with the defendant about marriage, and told him that Kilroy was "speaking to him about a wife for my sister Catherine;—that the defendant said he might marry himself;—that the defendant said over and over again, 'I should be settled that night, or he will be bringing him over again.' The affidavits further stated that the defendant was fully aware it was Catherine that was meant. The plaintiff's father stated in an affidavit that when the defendant came over to the house, plaintiff's father said, 'Are you going to change your mind?'"

**Coming for a Wife,"**  
said M'Donnell. "Yes," said the defendant. "Catherine, I suppose," said the old man. "Catherine I have always wished for," was reply. "She would make a good housekeeper." The affidavit further stated that there was truth in the defendant's allegation that he had said, "Was it Mary Anne," but he did say that "Mary Anne would be the top of the parish next year." No drink was produced until the settlement was made. A pint of whisky was brought in for eight persons and the defendant only took about a glass of punch. There was no truth in the statement of the defendant that he was trapped. The defendant had often spoken to his wife, "I am getting married, and he believed me."

hint at getting a method of escape. On the evening of the 10th of November all arrangements were made for our marriage. We remained in the room with the others had left, and spoke about things that would be necessary for the marriage. I did not put my arms round his neck, but he put his arms around mine and kissed me. The plaintiff testified that all preparations for the wedding were made. The witness asked: Dowse: What preparations were made?—Mr. Bodkin: I don't know. Mr. Baron Dowse: A lot of whisky, I suppose. Mr. Bodkin: It would still be available for another suitor. Since this man had come in

**ATTACK ON A GIRL.**  
At an early hour on Wednesday morning daughter of a farmer named Murphy, at L. chapel, near Kanturk, was attacked by two men who seized her and attempted to cut off her hair. She resisted cries for help, and manage escape with the loss of a portion of her hair. informed the police, and two men were arrested afterwards, whom she identified. They soon returned for trial at the Nenagh Assizes. The girl was on friendly terms with the person who is the probable reason for the outrage.

**AN INHUMAN MOTHER.**  
Twenty years' penal servitude has been meted out to an "ogress" named Stakenburg, Puteaux, outside Paris, who murdered her girl Marie, aged 11 years, in a shocking manner. The woman frequently shut the child up in a cellar, starved it, and beat it black and blue; it succumbed at last to its injuries. The prison witness against the inhuman mother was one of her other children, a boy, who had evidently well "coached up" by the judge of instruction, and who was to be made to state that his mother had been insane.

**"SUPERS" AND THEIR PAY.**  
At the Marlborough-street Police Court, G. Webber, a super, recently employed at the Theatre, appeared to his bail to further a charge of assaulting Viotti Arthur Vini, another super, and of being concerned in dating others from accepting work during the time of the new opera, "The Red Hussar." "Supers," it will be remembered, were discharged on account of not being paid 2s. instead of

for a minute demanded as some recompense for their hair to shave off their mustaches and to appear on the stage cleanly shaven. Last week a prisoner strenuously denied the assault on Mrs. Horrigan, an independent witness swore to seeing another man, shorter in stature and wearing a muffer, deal the blow on Bernard Abrahams, who had professed to be a Jew. The police had made inquiry and found that Webber had borne an excellent character for years, and as there appeared some doubt about his being the assailant

wished that the charges were against him, and he would withdraw the charge. Leslie, the proprietor of the theatre, was not anxious that any intimidation should be away with, and he (Mr. Abrahams) was happy that the present charge had been a success, and the new "supers" had not been cuffed with.—Mr. Hannay thought that the action had acted wisely in withdrawing the charge. He wished to observe that every man in this country had a right to sell his labour as he pleased, and no other person must interfere with intimidation or violence to prevent him from doing so. The prisoner, after what had happened, was discharged.

**A FEMALE SMOKER BURNED TO DEATH.**

An inquest was held at St. Bartholomew's Hospital on Wednesday on the body of Mrs. McCa-thy, a widow, 71 years of age, who was burned to death on the 29th ult. The deceased was the habit of smoking, and it is believed that while smoking in her room in Windward-street, she set fire to her clothes. In alarm she ran about the room, and set the rest of the furniture on fire. Before assistance arrived she was burned to death.—A verdict of accidental death was returned.

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SIXPENNY SILK-FRINED C  
With Silk and Tinsel Cord to hang. very  
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## "THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

The Prince's Theatre, Manchester, has just been sold to a syndicate for £22,000.

The trial of Mousa Bey, at Constantinople, has resulted in an acquittal.

A large number of turf notabilities are expected at the 125th anniversary of the York Gorumack Club, which will be held on the 10th inst.

The Liberals of Derby are organising a banquet to celebrate of Mr. Gladstone's eightieth birthday.

The London police have issued a warning against a man who loiters outside banks, and by plausible statements obtains money just obtained from the bank by messengers and others.

Laurie, the convicted Arran murderer, whose death sentence was last week respite to penal servitude for life, has been removed from Greenock to Perth, to undergo the first portion of his term of penal servitude.

The zone in which the English representatives at the Brussels Conference proposed to occupy the right of search comprises the whole of the eastern coast of Africa, from the Persian Gulf to Madagascar.

The Great Western Company's steamer *Gazelle* has been specially chartered to convey about 500 Boulangists from St. Malo to Jersey on Sunday, the 15th inst., and preparations are being made for a banquet.

The Queen has presented Admiral Comberelli with a large bronze medal struck to commemorate the late naval review. The obverse bears the portrait of the Emperor of Germany, and the reverse a miniature portrait of the Queen and a representation of the fleet.

A deputation of cotton-mongers has presented to the Holborn Road of Works a memorial against the order directing that the barrows and stalls in Farringdon-road should be removed. On the motion of Mr. Jacobs, the board decided unanimously to postpone their proposed action sine die.

A respite has been received at Lancaster Gaol for a young woman named Jane Jones, who was lying under sentence of death for the murder of her child at Fleetwood, on the 4th ult. The woman was tried on the 23rd ult., and after her conviction was found to be pregnant.

The Midland Merchants' Association at Nottingham has resolved to send a letter to the master of the Mint urging that now double forins are being issued, pieces should be withdrawn, and they also express themselves in favour of the decimalisation of coinage.

A man, after praying fervently before the tomb of Victor Emmanuel in the Pantheon, Rome, shot himself through the head. He did not die on the spot, but was carried to the hospital, while the carcass was immediately informed of the fact, and asked to reconsecrate the church.

The Queen held an investiture of the Order of the Bath at Windsor Castle on Thursday afternoon as follows:—Sir Henry Rawlinson, G.C.B., Sir Arthur Hood, G.C.B., and Dr. Banks, K.C.B. Sir Albert Wood, gave the king of arms, was in attendance at the ceremonial.

A charge of burglary was heard at the Wandsworth Police Court on Thursday, Thomas Smith, a labourer, being committed for trial on a charge of breaking into the residence at New Wandsworth of Mr. Robert B. Lodge, an accountant. The prisoner had been previously convicted of burglary.

The War Office has under consideration the question of providing large additional ordnance stores and magazines at Chester, in connection with the defence of the Mersey and Liverpool, the great importance of the latter having been increased by its connection with Manchester through the new canal.

Violent shocks of earthquake, accompanied by loud subterranean rumblings, have been felt in Serbia, at Kragujevatz, Jagodina, and Kupis. The disturbance generally travelled from east to west, but some of the shocks moved from north to south. It is reported that meteors fell in several places.

Terrible disasters are reported from Japan. A fire at Haidamachi has destroyed 183 houses, many of their inmates perishing in the flames. A theatre at Senichima collapsed during a performance, when twenty-five persons were killed and 100 injured. By an explosion on board a crowded passenger steamer near Foochow seventy passengers were killed.

In the City of London Court, Commissioner Kerr has had before him a matter arising out of the High Court action in which £15 damages were recovered, and the solicitors tendered a bill of costs for £20. His Honour said such legal extortion was really shocking, and advised that it should be brought under the Lord Chancellor's notice.

Morris Wiesbaum was summoned to the Thames Police Court for being the occupier of a room in Little Alie-street used for gambling. James McCarthy was charged with assisting in the business, and several other persons with using the room for gaming purposes. After police evidence, the magistrate fined Wiesbaum £20, McCarthy £10, and bound over the other defendants to keep the peace.

At Cambridge, Mr. J. L. Toole has been entertained at a luncheon, previous to his leaving for Australia. The mayor (Alderman Wace), an old schoolfellow of Mr. Toole's, presided. Mr. Oscar Browning proposed "Our Guest," and the toast was very cordially received. Mr. Toole acknowledged the compliment to himself and his profession. Mr. Terry and Mr. Brain Stoker responded to the toast of "The Drama."

Mr. John Carrington, solicitor, Barnsley, who detained Dr. Burke in a matter arising out of the death at Leeds Assizes, in May last year, for shooting his daughter, has received a telegram from the governor of Parkhurst Prison, Isle of Wight, intimating that Burke has died. The prisoner, whose death sentence had been reprieved, was ordered to be released last week, but being in a precarious state he was detained, dying as stated.

Mr. H. A. Jones, author of "The Silver King" and "The Middleman," in the course of his lecture at the Lambeth Polytechnic said the drama had its proper object both the gratification of our better emotions, and the elevation of the intellect to a level from which human life could be more comprehensively envisaged. Against all these principles the puerile and vulgar programme of the modern music halls aimed most grievously.

The examination of the St. William's Fever Hospital, Rochester, which was partially destroyed by fire on November 25th, has revealed the extraordinary fact that birds had been the innocent cause of the disaster. The loaves connected with the ventilators are quite open, and inside one of these has been found about half a bushel of straw, which had been carried in by birds for the purpose of making their nests. The ignition of this straw is regarded as the cause of the conflagration.

Mr. Justice Cave and a special jury tried an action brought by Mr. E. B. Smith against Lord Francis G. Osborne, to recover nearly £400 lost in operations on the Stock Exchange. The question depended on the arrangement made between the parties as to the limit of liability, respecting which the evidence was conflicting. His lordship observed that when a man speculated on the Stock Exchange he must be prepared for losses, and verdict and judgment were given in favour of the plaintiff.

An arrest at St. Helens has caused unusual excitement. The scene was a house at which about forty persons were assisting at a marriage feast. A constable, finding that among the guests was a man "wanted" for desertion from the Army, made his appearance in the midst of the merry throng, and, strange to say, was received with much cordiality. When the deceiver had coaxed his victim out into the street and made manifest his intentions, the wedding guests regretted their extension of hospitality to the wily officer, and

there was something of a disturbance, in which the captive joined.

There were 2,231 births and 1,143 deaths in London last week.

There was not a single death from either small-pox, typhus, or cholera in London last week.

The New Museum and the National Library at Dublin, which will be open in the spring, cost £120,000.

Emilio Castelar, the Spanish Liberal leader, is said to believe that Europe will be entirely Republican fifty years hence.

The Nottingham corporation has refused to support a bill in Parliament for the licensing of places for public music and dancing.

A strike has broken out at Zurich which affects nearly all the trades connected with the book industry.

The Cardiff screw steamer *St. Donatus* was towed into Dover on Thursday, having been found with her shaft broken and drifting in the Channel.

The famous Letzlingen forests in Hanover witnessed a big battle last week. In two days the Emperor William's party brought down 156 stags, 374 deer, and 37 wild boars.

Fireman Knollings, of Leeds, leaned out of his tender near Worcester Station. His head came with a sickening thud in contact with a bridge. The poor fellow's death was instantaneous.

The Hon. Mrs. Robert Bruce died suddenly while entering the club train at Victoria Station, on Tuesday afternoon, intending to leave for Monte Carlo.

Six foxhounds belonging to the Carlow and Island Hunt Club have been poisoned at the Aghade covert, near Tallow. Three of the dogs are dead, and the master has laid a claim for compensation.

A fit of delirium seized Madame de la Berge, an old lady of 68, residing on the fifth floor of a house in the Rue Fontaine, Paris. Suddenly rising from her couch, she precipitated herself from the window. The poor lady died shortly after.

The London coroners last week held inquests on fifty-three persons who had died from violence; seven were cases of suicide and two of murder or manslaughter, the remainder being due to accident or negligence.

Parliamentary journalists are waking up. By an enterprising feat, without precedent in France, Mr. Gladstone's Monday's speech at Manchester was given in the evening in a scarcely abridged form in the *Sol*.

One of the Miss Drezeles, a New York heiress to the extent of some \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000, has taken the white veil of the Sisters of Mercy. At the ceremony Miss Drezele was dressed in a costume valued at \$2,000.

Frederick Brunning and his wife were a disappointed pair, living at Prescott, in Ontario. They were the other day found dead in bed. Brunning had first murdered the woman, and then ended his own ill-fated life.

The election expenses of Sir Robert Peel, Gladstone candidate at Brighton-by-election, have been returned at £203.5s. 11d., of which £153.5s. 10d. are classed as returning officer's expenses, and £50 as candidate's personal expenses.

According to a Shanghai correspondent, a contract has been made with the Krupp Company for thirty-six large guns for the armaments of the northern forts, to be provided at a cost of four and a half million marks.

At Leicester Assizes, Aaron Goldrey has been sentenced to eight months' imprisonment, with hard labour, for keeping a gambling club. Shorter terms of imprisonment were given to three others connected with the same case.

Cardinal Manning has consented to become a vice-president of the Native Bazaar and the Minor Traffic United Committee, and has nominated Canon Murnane and John son to sit on the executive as representatives of the Catholic Total Abstinence League of the Coast.

During November reports were received at the Board of Trade concerning the loss of 40 sailing and 11 steam vessels, with a gross tonnage of 25,432 tons. There were 84 lives lost, 81 in connection with the sailing vessels, and 24 with the steamers.

Living within two and a half miles of Mattapoisett, Mass., where all were born, are nine brothers and sisters named Bolles, who range in age from 93 to 38 years. Unlike most families the family numbered twelve. One died at the age of 72, the other at the age of 68, the third when he was 75.

A cow, the property of a widow named Geraghty, was frightfully mutilated the other night in the shed in which it was kept in the centre of the town of Galway. Mrs. Geraghty's niece, who is joint holder of the property with her, had served notices of eviction on some tenants on Monday.

A complaint to Austrian art has just been paid by a sculptor from New York to a young sculptor in Milan, in the Tirol, Herr Steiner, to model a statue of Columbus, which is to be sent to the States. The order was due to the fact that the Museum of New York possesses two admirable wood carvings from the father of the sculptor.

Old John Edlestone, of Blackburn, was staggering to his home the worse for drink. Wandering into K. R. road, a locality without lamps, and which is now broken up for a park, he fell on his face into a mass of mud. There he remained, and when he was discovered the next morning it was found that he had been suffocated.

The dispute in the Birmingham metallic bedstead trade has culminated in a general strike, the operatives coming out in a body, notwithstanding the proposal of a compromise between their representatives and the employers' association. On Tuesday the works were mostly closed, and about 2,000 strikers paraded the streets.

A Vienna correspondent states that in Castana, a small locality near Fiume, marriage is not looked upon as a failure for a few days after. Not more than thirty couples were united in the bonds of wedlock at one and the same marriage ceremony. It is an old custom for all betrothed in the course of the year to get married at the same time.

At an inquest at Deptford on the body of Ann Kitchen, a widow, aged 67, it was stated that the deceased was found dead kneeling by the side of her bed. Her friends in Yorkshire had sent her money to go down there and spend Christmas, and she was considerably excited about the expected visit. The jury returned a verdict of death from syncope, caused by excitement.

Her Majesty's gunboat *Watchful*, which is engaged on fishery service in the North Sea, went ashore on Thursday morning about 300 yards north of Lowestoft Harbour, when she was coming from sea. Two immediately went to her assistance, but were unable to move her. The tug *Henry*, the gunboat *Forester*, and two other vessels also assisted to get her off.

A gardener employed at a large house at Sydenham a few days ago found in the shrubbery a parcel containing the body of a female child terribly mutilated. The police surgeon examined it, and found that the head, legs, and arms had been severed, the latter at the elbow, and were missing. The missing members have not been found.

At a Crimes Court at Waterford, Cornelius Redmond, editor of the *Waterford News*, who had received eleven summonses under the Crimes Act, was sentenced to a further term of two months' imprisonment for intimidation. The various penalties imposed upon the accused now total seven months and a half. Redmond was arrested and removed to gaol.

A coroner's jury at Wellington has returned a verdict of suicide while temporarily insane in the case of a young woman, named Eliza Corbett, who was found drowned in a pond at Killybeg. She had been for some weeks suffering from religious mania, having been a member of the Salvation Army. She was convinced that "there was no forgiveness for her, as she had spurned God's mercy." In a letter found upon her she had written "no blame attached to the man who

was gone to marry. "It was all through her own un pardonable sin."

The Empress Frederick has arrived at Naples, and will stay there a month.

The Queen will reside at Windsor Castle until the morning of the 17th inst., when she will go to Osborne for Christmas.

Portsmouth, Southampton, and Winchester are now in telephonic communication, and the trunk line is about to be extended to Bournemouth.

31,773 Germans emigrated between the 1st of January and the 31st of October, as against 29,711 last year and 90,356 in 1887.

After the estate of the late Mr. R. A. Proctor, the astronomer, has been wound up, barely £2,000 remains to meet the wants of the widow and seven children.

At Huddersfield, Mary Stockwell, Bashcliffe, was fined 10s. and the expense for having made a number of false statements in reference to the birth of a child.

Dr. Harwood Casson, of Workop, has died under distressing circumstances. He suffered acutely from neuralgia, and death is said to be attributed to an overdose of chloral.

The revenue receipts between the 1st of April and 30th of November amounted to £22,446,246, as compared with £22,890,803 in the corresponding period of last year, and the expenditure to £24,659,912, as against £25,609,021.

Justice Wills thinks it would be of great advantage if a short Act were passed making it an offence punishable by fine to carry loaded firearms without reasonable excuse for doing so.

The Baroness Burdett-Coutts, in the Westminster Town Hall on Wednesday evening, distributed the prizes which had been gained by the children in the board school of the Westminster Division at the recent examination in religious knowledge.

At Birmingham, Matthew Evans, a publican, has been committed for trial, charged with the attempted murder of his wife. She rebuked him for coming home in a cab, and a desperate fight ensued, the furniture being thrown about freely. The prisoner ended the struggle with a shot gun.

A St. Petersburg correspondent states that the years entertained as to the influenza epidemic favouring an outbreak of cholera are somewhat dispelled by the fact that the quarantine regulations on the Persian frontier (where influenza is not rare) are being rigorously enforced.

In a report, Mr. Latham, who was specially commissioned to deal with Cairo sanitation, recommended 240 miles of sewer, and a system costing about half a million, or rather over £1 per head of the population. The figures are considered favourable.

Two shocking cases of sudden death happened in Hormansey. The names of the deceased were John Russell and Thomas Strance, the former being discovered dead on a bed-room floor. Mr. Strance, who kept a café at Lowestoft, was on a visit to a friend, and he was found lying dead in bed beside him.

After a delay of some months, an agreement has been reached by the council of New-castle-on-Tyne enabling two electric lighting companies to go on with the laying of their underground cables, and it is expected that electric light will be substituted for gas in the principal business places of Newcastle in a few weeks' time.

The prefects in France are instructed to issue posters warning all young men born in France of foreign parents to present themselves forthwith at the military bureaux of their respective municipalities to prove their parentage, otherwise they will be liable to a period of imprisonment ranging from one month to one year.

In the Divorce Division on Wednesday, Mr. Justice Butt had the special jury called over, and ten gentlemen not answering to their names, he fined them £10 each. He pointed out that it was a neglect of a public duty on their part, and their non-attendance made it unfair to those who had served since they were summoned.

The coronation of the day in Berlin is the suicide of a young Italian lady, described as being of great beauty. She was there on a visit, and receiving a telegram announcing her mother's sudden death, she threw herself out of the window in one of the most frequented streets. Death was instantaneous.

The English party in Swaziland, fearing that the Dutch property holders will outvote them at the election of the committee of new members proposing by Sir F. de Winton to lay the views of the "whites" before the commission, suggest that the holders of mineral concessions, monopolies, &c., shall each appoint delegates.

A small boat has arrived at Apia, Samoa, containing nine men in an exhausted condition. They were part of the crew of the Liverpool ship *Prinz*, wrecked on a coral reef while on a voyage to Melbourne. The British consul has despatched a schooner to the assistance of the remainder of the crew, who were left on the island.

An accident, attended with fatal consequences, has just occurred at a shooting party near Naimur. M. Allard, a Brussels communal councillor, unfortunately shot a fellow councillor, M. Bismann, who expired the following morning. Allard has been so much affected by the accident that it has been considered prudent to keep the news of the fatal result from him.

A new word—at least in England—has just been introduced into the conversation of polite society. A young lady at a dinner party, on being asked whether she would like a trip round the world, answered: "Oh, dear, no; this is quite too expensive!" It is to be hoped that the shade of Johnson, Webster, and Walker were not within hearing distance.

London north of the Thames has nearly double the number of clergy, in proportion to population, as compared with London south of the river, and the Bishop of Rochester has issued a special appeal for providing the stipends of additional curates. One gentleman has promised for three years to give five curates at £120 a year, leaving it to the bishop to select the parishes.

The Shakespeare Memorial Library at Stratford-on-Avon has received an important gift of books from the Indian Government. In response to a letter sent to Lord Dufferin at the time he was viceroy, the Government have been at considerable pains to collect all the translations of Shakespeare's works published in India, and have transferred them as a donation to the Memorial Library.

A fire, by which an elderly woman was severely injured by suffocation, has occurred at 16, Audley-place, Victoria-street, Westminster. A room occupied by a tenant named Frances Hawkins, 70 years of age, was found to be on fire at the time mentioned, and when the flames were subdued the occupant was found in an insensible condition and nearly suffocated. She was at once removed to a hospital.

The expedition which left Liverpool about two months ago for West Africa to try to recover some treasure which went down in the mail steamer *Danania*, has returned without being successful. Most of the ivory which was in the vessel was recovered by a diver, but the specie was said to be still in the ship. The same divers will make another attempt when they get the requisite apparatus.

The property of the North Metropolitan Tramway Company, Seven Sisters-terrace, Holloway, was set on fire on Wednesday last by the overheating of a stove-pipe. When the fire alarm had brought up the firemen from the station, it was found that the harness-room on the ground floor was a mass of flames and although every effort was made to extinguish the flames, this was not accomplished until the harness-room and the contents had been very severely damaged.

President Harrison's message to the United States Congress, which is an international agreement, are being amicably adjusted. The revenue of the country showed a large balance of receipts over expenditure, and, as this surplus is a disturbing element in business, he commends the subject to the consideration of Congress. He recommends the revision of the tariff, and an extension of the free list, but so as not to allow an injurious competition with domestic products.

Mr. William Mackinnon, chairman of the India Rubber Committee, has had the honour of dining with the Queen.

Prince Henry of Denmark is staying at Goring, at the Hotel Saint George's, for two months' shooting.

The French Minister of Marine has, it is reported from Paris, decided to despatch a war vessel to Brazil.

Advices from Friedrichshafen state that there is no foundation for the disquieting rumour about Prince Bismarck's health.

A parcel containing 10,000 mark bank notes for the Serbian Government is stated to have been stolen in course of transmission by post.

A serious avalanche has occurred in the canton of Schwytz, destroying a house and doing considerable damage.

The Lord Mayor will preside at a festival dinner in aid of the funds of the University College Hospital, at the Hotel Metropole, on Tuesday, the 25th of February.

At Leeds, Robert McCloskey, who said he belonged to Liverpool, has been sentenced to two months' imprisonment for gambling on the Midden by means of the three card trick.

The death is announced of Mr. C. H. E. Marriott, the well-known song writer, and for sixteen years director of the Hastings Pier concerts. He had been ailing for some months.

Mr. Justice Denman and Mr. Baron Pollock will be the Christmas vacation judges, the former acting in that capacity during the first and the latter during the second half of the vacation.

During the year ended October 31st there were no fewer than 43 suicides in the Austro-Hungarian army of which number twenty-three were officers and the remainder non-commissioned officers and privates.

The contractor for the Tay and Forth Bridge—Mr. William Arrol—has been presented with the freedom of the city of Dundee. Two millions sterling had, he said, been expended in wages during the construction of these bridge.

A marriage has been arranged between Mdlle. Valentine Biffel, daughter of the constructor of the famous tower, and M. Piccoli, a Corsican gentleman, who is a clerk in the Foreign Office. Mdlle. Biffel is in her nineteenth year.

One sign of the increasing prosperity of the metropolis is furnished by the returns of pauperism. The latest statistics show a falling off in the number of paupers of 4 per cent, as compared with last year. And this, too, in spite of strikes and other labour troubles.

A famous William, living in Capel-street, Watford, was crossing Chapsdale. He suddenly slipped and fell, and before he could regain his footing a heavy cab passed over him, causing injuries which necessitated his removal to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

John Highland, of Kansas city, Missouri, was standing at his door the other night, when one of two men on the opposite side of the road was heard to say, "There he is; let him have it." High and the next moment fell dead, shot through the heart.

The Duchess of Albany has signified her intention of being present at the concert to be given by the Children's Orchestra (of which the Duchess of Teck is president) in aid of the Royal Hospital for Children and Women, Waterloo Bridge-road, on January 23rd next, at Westminster Town Hall.

During a fight in a butchery establishment in Baltimore, John Fisher threw Henry Brunner, a lad of 17, into a vat of boiling water, which was used to take the bristles off hogs. The boy was scalded in a horrible manner, and died a few hours later.

The aggregate admissions to the Paris Exhibition numbered 25,000,000, of which 2,723,000 were gratuitous. In 1875 the number was twelve and a half millions, and in 1887 eight and a half millions. These numbers show the number of visitors, not the number of tickets sold. The Exhibition brought 10,000 extra English visitors to Paris.

The words used by Mr. Gladstone with reference to the Fabian Bill disclose a sharp difference of opinion between him and his son, the rector of St. Alden. The latter was one of the clergy who signed the recent appeal to Lord Salisbury to press forward the short bill of last session, a one that was essential in the interests of the Church.

Mr. Henry Gladstone will be married to Miss Maud Rosset on the 15th of January, and the newly-married couple will live during the Parliamentary session with Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone, who are for India in October. A very gratifying improvement has taken place in the health of Mr. W. H. Gladstone.

A telegram from Treles states that three persons were arrested and wounded the other evening at Castledown. They were witnesses against a man named Bourke, who was returned for trial at Castlemeath for swearing persons into an illegal association, and were to have gone to the witness box at Nenagh to give evidence against him.

Such great changes have taken place in the entrance to the Thames by the Prince's Channel leading up from the North Foreland, by the shifting of the sand drifts, that the Trinity authorities have taken steps to alter the position of the buoys and light-ships. The alterations will come into operation on the 15th inst.

Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone and the Earl of Aberdeen and Mrs. Howard and Castle, Windsor, have even now from Manchester. The party drove from Chester, as it was not considered safe to go on to Haverdham Station owing to the subsidence on Monday of one of the arches over which the new railway passes.

At Watford, Mr. H. D. Fisher, printer, publisher, and manager of the *Watford Express*, has been sentenced to two months' imprisonment, without hard labour, for having published a report of a meeting of a branch of the National League, at which certain persons were named out as obnoxious, and traders were told to have no dealings with them.

Orders have been issued from the War Office stating that every man, the allowance of ball ammunition to the Corps of Volunteer engineers, mounted rifles, and rifles is to be reduced from 70 rounds per annum for each efficient member to 75. Sixty rounds are to be used for class-drill as heretofore. As many Volunteers do not fire more than 10 rounds in the year, it is considered that the reduction will not cause any inconvenience.

At Houghton-le-Spring, Durham, Edwin Hendy, a pitman, has been remanded on the charge of attempting to murder his sweetheart, Margaret Carr, 6 shooting her. The couple had quarrelled, and Hendy, who lodged with Carr's parents, fired a shot at the girl. The bullet passed through her jacket and grazed her eyes, but she was not injured. The man made off, and at night hid himself in a plantation, where he was almost frozen to death. Next day he was arrested.

Three of the directors of the Yorkshire Provident Life Assurance Company, named Watson, Hollindale, and Martin, were, at Leeds on Wednesday, committed for trial at the assizes upon the charge of having submitted a false balance-sheet to the Board of Trade. The affairs of the society formed the subject of an inquiry before a select committee in the last session of Parliament, the result being that the books were examined by the public prosecutor.

Unanimously and with enthusiasm has the Grand Lodge of Freemasons now more nominated the Prince of Wales as grand master of this ancient and illustrious order. The Lord Mayor said, "If I were asked to point to the prince who has least rest, whose mind is most occupied by good works, and whose heart is always moved by the welfare of his fellow-creatures, I should point to our most worshipful grand master." Mr.

Aurelius Harris was nominated for the grand treasurership.

Mr. Harold Loder's account in winning Brighton "trotter" up to £12,168 5s.

J. L. Sullivan has not settled down to the task of a more breeding career at Boston.

Chinese matches are now competing sharply with the Swedish product in some parts of Europe.

An Italian brigand, who has just died, has left a will, in which he says:—"I divide the sweets of life that my wife will not marry again."

German chemists have produced a new substitute for butter under the name of "oleomargarine."

During the year ending June 30th last, they produced 2,972,000 lbs. of oleomargarine monthly in the United States.

They exported £24,319 worth of gold from the Cape in November, thus bringing the total value of the eleven months' gold exports up to £267,729.

Thomas Carlyle was born on December 4th, 1795, and the Carlyle Society commemorated the nineteenth anniversary of the event at its annual meeting in Audleston's Hotel.

For a vacant junior mastership the committee of the City of London School received no fewer than 216 applications from gentlemen of exceptional educational qualifications.

In consequence of disputes which have arisen owing to the name adopted by the Arts and Letters Club, Mr. Aurelius Harris has withdrawn from the committee and resigned membership.

They have, in the first ten months of this year, exported 6,731,774 gallons of wine from California. This exceeds by a half-million gallons the exports for the whole of last year.

According to a Paris journal, an English company has applied to the French Ministry of Public Works for a concession to build a bridge across the English Channel.

A telegram received in Glasgow on Thursday reports that the sailing ship *King Robert*, on the 1st year at Port Glasgow, has been burned off Cape Horn on her maiden voyage.

Most of the bricklayers of Kettering have ceased work because a demand for an increase of 1d. per hour in their wages has been refused. The men, who at present receive 6s. an hour, are receiving support from neighbouring trade unions.

The Portuguese Government have prepared a reply to be sent direct to London in response to Lord Salisbury's note. The measure maintains the rights of Portugal, and declares that she will not withdraw in the face of any menace from England.

In the Hungarian Diet great excitement prevails. On Wednesday a deputy accused a member of the opposition of having paid his gambling debts with premiums on the sale of salt to Bulgaria. A duel was fought in consequence, which was followed by another, for neither combatant was hurt.

At the meeting of the Liverpool City Council this week, the Library, Museum, and Arts Committee recommended that the application of the Liverpool Sunday Society for the autumn exhibition of pictures to be opened to the public free on the last four Sundays of the year be granted. An amendment, however, was carried to postpone the exhibition on Saturday afternoons instead.

Two old and respectfully dressed gentlemen, probably brothers, were, when crossing the road at Coacoe, Lane, knocked down by a waggon carrying a trunk party. The wheel went over the neck of one of them, but the other was only wounded. The French driver, a poor creature, worst in the world, and the law rather than a toter, refused to assist the injured, it being his duty to look out for his own safety.











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assessor of taxes, was charged with embezzlement from his employer, Joseph Harradine, collector at Bromley. Evidence was given to the effect that the prisoner received from a Mr. Adams for taxes and gave a receipt for it, but never paid it over. Additional cases of a like nature were gone into, and evidence was afterwards taken as to charges of falsifying accounts. The defendant, it was said, amounted to £170. The conclusion was committed for trial, but was admitted to be